

Town of Oakville

Heritage Update

2019 edition

Greetings from the Chair of Heritage Oakville

Welcome to our second Heritage Update newsletter. In it we continue to update you on the many heritage-related projects and issues which have taken place over the past year or so.

We have continued our cultural heritage landscape designation activities to include Bronte Harbour, Bronte Bluffs, Erchless Estate and Joshua Creek Heritage Arts Centre. The conservation of these properties will allow for appropriate growth and development without the loss of these valuable heritage properties.

Many residential applications have been processed and although initially many homeowners are concerned about having to comply with yet another set of rules, our proactive approach more often than not results in a better project. All of the other hoops you have to go through can be expensive; heritage permit applications carry no fee. Further, the continuation of the heritage grant program by Oakville Town Council assists property owners with the costs of their restoration projects.

Over the past couple of years, there has been significant development in the Old Bronte Road area in Palermo. Largely we are dealing with already permitted developments, but have had success incorporating existing heritage buildings into these plans which we hope will give a unique aspect to the area.

The Oakville Arena restoration project has been completed with the maintenance and conservation of the Hipel truss roof which gives the building such a special Ontario appearance. The old Radial Railway building has been sensitively restored and demonstrates that the best guarantee of the maintenance of a heritage building is its viability as a residence or business.

Last year we lost a dear friend. Harry Barrett, who as Mayor had championed heritage matters, became a member and later Chair of Heritage Oakville. His advice, guidance and unique sense of humour will be missed. We cherish his memory.♦



Drew Bucknall

Chair, Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee

Oakville Arena Keeps Its Stick on the Ice

On September 22, 2018, the newly revitalized and expanded Oakville Arena was introduced to the public as the Trafalgar Park Community Centre through a grand reopening celebration. The day included activities for families, tours of the new facility and even a 'Reunion Skate with the Oakville Blades'.

The new facility contains an NHL-size ice surface, an indoor running track, new seniors' centre, full-size gymnasium, fitness centre, change rooms and administration offices. Even a new Kinsmen Pine Room has been built for community use, with the original sign and a piece of pine wainscoting from the original room visible in one of the new display cabinets. Many other artifacts from the original arena, along with photographs and memories from community members, have been put on display to commemorate and celebrate the newly revitalized community centre.

When the original arena was constructed in 1950, it was built with a distinctive wooden truss roof system designed by Norman Otto Hipel. The

'Hipel' roof is a significant feature of the building and one of the many reasons why the community wanted to see the original building conserved.

Oakville's residents now have the best of both worlds – the original arena building, with its unique roof system restored, all within a brand new, high quality facility. The new Trafalgar Park Community Centre is a fantastic example of a project where a building with so much cultural heritage value to a community can be conserved while still meeting the diverse needs associated with a modern community centre. In this way, the town continues to set the standard for heritage conservation. ♦



Oakville arena with new addition



One of the display cases featuring letters from the former Oakville Arena signage

Fire Station #3

Formerly located at 125 Randall Street, the new Fire Station #3 has been built at 168 Kerr Street at the corner of Kerr Street and Rebecca Street. Unique to this station is a multimedia education centre which includes curated museum pieces that reflect the history of the Oakville Fire Department. A vintage pumper truck is on display, in addition to numerous artifacts donated by local residents and former firefighters. ♦



Roof extension added to accommodate a NHL-size rink – the new wood ceiling is lighter to differentiate the old from the new



The updated Oakville Arena with the restored Hipel roof



Vintage pumper truck in the new education centre



Artifacts on display

Heritage Grant Program

Every year, the Town of Oakville awards grants to owners of heritage properties for improvements to their heritage buildings and properties. Since the program's inception in 2014, approximately \$420,000 has been awarded to assist with over 100 restoration and conservation projects worth more than \$1.8 million. Thanks to the support of Oakville Town Council and the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee, this successful program will continue in 2019.

Below are just a few of the projects that received grant money in the past two years. ♦



Replacement of arbour and fence at 41 Second Street



Painting of siding and trim at 213 Allan Street



New wood porch flooring at 323 Trafalgar Road



Repairs to stone chimney at 2333 Ontario Street



Restoration of front door at 109 Balsam Drive



Repairs to brickwork at Knox Presbyterian Church



New wood storm windows at 343 Palmer Street



Restoration of stained glass windows at Palermo United Church



Trafalgar Memorial Designated Heritage



Trafalgar Memorial

In October 2018, Oakville Town Council passed a by-law to designate the Trafalgar Memorial under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Dedicated in 2005, the Trafalgar Memorial was designed and built as a war memorial to recognize almost 700 veterans from the former Trafalgar Township who served during World War I, World War II and the Korean War. In preparation for the memorial, volunteers collected names from local churches and historical records to create one comprehensive list of veterans from Trafalgar Township. This memorial is now the only location where all of these names are presented together in a physical monument.

The memorial was constructed using remnants of the Trafalgar Memorial Hall building, formerly located at the southeast corner of Trafalgar Road and Dundas Street. Built in 1949, four years after the end of World War II, the Hall was constructed in recognition of war veterans from the two Great Wars. The structure served as the municipal building for Trafalgar Township, which at the time was still independent from the municipality of Oakville. It replaced the former two-storey brick building which was built as a store around 1850 by Obadiah Marlatt on the same site.

In 1962, Trafalgar Township and Oakville amalgamated into one municipality. To reflect the expanded boundaries of the new municipality, a

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new town hall (the current one) was built north of downtown Oakville on the east side of Trafalgar Road and north of the Queen Elizabeth Way. The Trafalgar Memorial Hall continued to be used by the municipality until 1986 when a transport truck hit the building, causing significant damage.

In 1997, Oakville Town Council approved the construction of a new memorial to pay homage to the original hall and to commemorate veterans of war. When the hall was demolished in 1999, materials from the structure were salvaged, including the stone material around the front entrance, red bricks, the steel lettering of 'Trafalgar Memorial' and a bronze plaque from 1959 which recognized the contributions of war veterans from the two Great Wars.

The original stone frontispiece with signage was recreated on the new site and brick material was used to create low garden walls which mimic the footprint of the original hall. Six bronze plaques were installed on the memorial to commemorate the former Trafalgar Memorial Hall building, the new Trafalgar Memorial and the veterans of war from World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

The Trafalgar Memorial serves as a reminder of the former hamlet of Postville and of the many local families who contributed to the war effort. It is also a reminder of the post-contact European settlement throughout Trafalgar Township and its rural and agricultural history. ♦



Original c.1850 Township Hall, 1940



Second c.1949 Township Hall, 1950s

Glen Abbey Golf Course Update

The town has now completed its activities related to the cultural heritage landscape assessment and official designation of the Glen Abbey property, including implementation of the supporting by-laws and policies. Council also completed its consideration and refusal of ClubLink's development and demolition applications. Litigation and appeals are still ongoing. Appeals of the town-initiated official plan and zoning amendments approved by Council at its January 30, 2018 Planning and Development Council meeting will go forward under the rules of the new provincial Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT), which has replaced the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). For more details and regular updates, go to oakville.ca and search for 'Glen Abbey information' ♦

The Keepers of Our History

Within Oakville, there are three organizations who fill the extremely important role of archiving and promoting Oakville's history. For decades, these historical societies have been run by local citizens who provide their passion and expertise to ensure that Oakville's past is not forgotten. These volunteers collect and archive materials, update databases, host workshops, guide walking tours, maintain historic buildings and gardens and provide a friendly and supportive atmosphere to those interested in learning more about Oakville's history.

More information on each historical society is provided below. If you are interested in learning more about your local area's past or your family history, check out these historical societies and think about becoming a member. And remember to thank the volunteers for all their hard work!



Sovereign House at 7 West River Street

Bronte Historical Society

7 West River Street, Oakville

905-825-5552

www.brontehistoricalsociety.ca

Hours:

Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays 1:00pm to 4:00pm from May to October

The Bronte Historical Society is a non-profit charitable organization, dedicated to encouraging interest in the preservation and promotion of the heritage of Bronte. The Society is located at the Charles Sovereign / Mazo de la Roche Heritage Display Centre, situated on high ground overlooking the lake and harbour. This area was originally occupied on a seasonal basis by Indigenous peoples.

The Sovereign House is a destination and the Society is a resource for those seeking information about settlement and enterprise in early Bronte. Enquiries are regularly made by Oakville residents and those from outside the community. Research answers these questions and enriches our collection.

Many of our events such as Art on the Bluffs and social activities such as Wine & Jazz assist with fundraising. As well, the north wing is a source of rental income for special events. The monies support the work of the Society and our obligation for the up-keep of Sovereign House.

We entered 2018 with a newly appointed, enthusiastic and creative Board of Directors. Our President is Tom Appleton. This year marked the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Society ... a "home coming" for long time Society members/residents and a celebration of achievements to date. Over the past year, we have been pleased to watch the completion of the restoration of grave stones at Sovereign Pioneer Cemetery, the opening of the Moccasin Trail along the west bank of 12 Mile Creek and the designation of the Bronte Harbour and Bronte Bluffs as cultural heritage landscapes by Oakville Town Council.

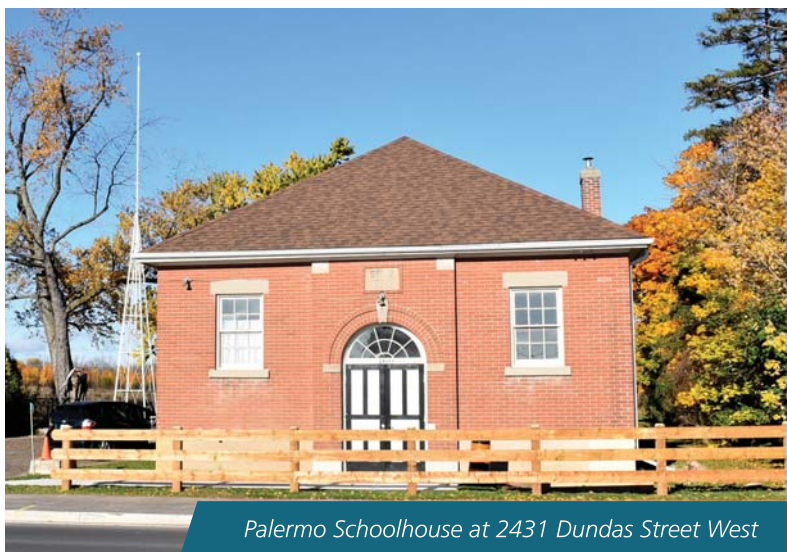
Keep an eye on our website for the 2019 schedule of presentations and events. In particular, details of our popular "Tea on the Bluffs ... in memory of Mary Murray".

Betty Strong, volunteer historian at BHS

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The 'Cottages' at 110 King Street



Palermo Schoolhouse at 2431 Dundas Street West

Oakville Historical Society

110 King Street, Oakville

905-844-2695

www.oakvillehistory.org

Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 1:00pm to 4:30pm

Third Sunday of the month 12:30 to 4:00pm

In 1953, Hazel Chisholm Mathews, great-granddaughter of William Chisholm, founded the Oakville Historical Society to discover, preserve and disseminate knowledge of the town's history. Oakville's various community groups and individuals recognize the importance of a sense of belonging. Our 'Oakville Memories' project provides citizens a means of relating their Oakville experience.

We have had many requests for copies for personal and commercial use of our 6,527 digitized photographic collection. The marine library catalogue lists 1,371 books. To encourage young citizens to get involved, we promote the Society at the Annual Mayor's Picnic by means of quizzes and art contests, and in the fall, through our Ghost Walks. Our next project will be digitizing the document collection, another huge endeavour. Please visit and join us to see how you can help us preserve the past.

Susan Wells, Vice President of the Oakville Historical Society

Trafalgar Township Historical Society

2431 Dundas Street West, Oakville

905-257-3558

www.tths.ca

Hours:

The archives are open several times throughout the year. Contact TTHS for more details.

The Trafalgar Society Historical Society held its first Board Meeting in February of 2006. We are located in the Palermo Schoolhouse situated at 2431 Dundas Street, east of Highway 25. The Society continues to "document, celebrate, and preserve the agricultural heritage of North Oakville". Our Heritage Fair is held each September in conjunction with Doors Open.

Four open meetings with guest speakers are held each year and our archives are open nine times throughout the year. Visitors are encouraged to share memories and donate photographs and family histories to the archives. New records are added to our digital collections, with most described in our quarterly newsletters. The collection is accessed by hundreds of people monthly.

Ideas are being put forward to improve accessibility to the schoolhouse as well as finishing the basement to increase archival and storage facilities. Everyone is welcome to visit our collections in the restored 1942 one room schoolhouse.

Ross Wark, Archivist at TTHS ♦

'Squire' James Appelbe House Restored

Designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* in 1991, the Appelbe House has long been a landmark along Dundas Street in north Oakville. Built in the Gothic Revival style, the original front brick section was constructed c.1866 and a brick addition was added to the rear in the late 19th century. The two historic portions of the house are constructed of solid brick, with the original house being covered at some point in a cementitious coating. The symmetrical front façade has five bays with a centre door flanked by pairs of French windows. The front gable has a rounded window opening and decorative bargeboard, typical of the Gothic Revival style.

The house is named after James Appelbe who built the house. James immigrated to Canada from Ireland around 1815 and married Jemima Kaitting McDuffee, whose grandparents were one of the first settlers in Trafalgar Township. They settled in Postville (also known as Post's Corners and later as Trafalgar Village) at the corner of Dundas Street and Trafalgar Road, and James established a store and post office in the village. Known as 'Squire Appelbe', he was a prominent local citizen who served as Postmaster, a Justice of the Peace, a Treasurer of Trafalgar Township, the Recording Secretary of Nelson Circuit and as one of the first directors at the Bank of Toronto.

As this area of Oakville began to be developed, builders Great Gulf proposed to retain the house within the new plan of subdivision and restore it to its historic appearance. In 2016, the house was picked up and relocated to a new lot approximately 95 metres to the northwest of its original location. The house was placed on a new foundation and a new one storey frame garage was added to the rear. Due to a number of alterations made to the house over the years, and a 2009 fire inside the second storey, a great deal of restoration work was carried out on the house.

The restoration work was completed in 2018 and the house now stands on a corner lot next to the Natural Heritage System which provides an appropriately rural-like setting for this historic farmstead. The Appelbe House continues to serve as a reminder of the agricultural history of Oakville and the European settlement of its formerly rural areas. ♦





Appelbe House being relocated to new lot, 2014



Following restoration, 2018



At its original location, 1977



Following restoration and new garage addition, 2018

Historical Plaques – What Do They Mean?

You've probably seen both of these plaques around town, but have you ever wondered what they mean?

Many historic houses around downtown Oakville have a wood white plaque with black lettering, usually showing who built the house and in what year. These signs are commissioned by the owners and made by the Oakville Historical Society. While they provide information on the history of the home, these plaques do not indicate if the property is designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. If you are interested in one for your home, contact the Oakville Historical Society at www.oakvillehistory.org.

The small oval bronze plaques can be seen throughout Oakville and are placed on individually designated buildings. These plaques are provided by the town and indicate that the property has been designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. If your property is individually designated and you do not have a bronze plaque, let Heritage Planning staff know and they can provide one to you. ♦



Town of Oakville brass plaque



Oakville Historical Society wood plaque

Memorial Park Continues to Grow

Work has continued on Memorial Park, an 11-hectare public park in the Oak Park community of Oakville. In 2016, two new shelters were constructed on the west and east ends of the allotment gardens. These shelters contain barn wood salvaged from a historic barn, as well as commemorative panels describing the European settlement and agricultural history of the area.

In 2018, a new public washroom was opened on the site, which features a word mural that incorporates the words and names of themes, people, places and events associated with the area's Indigenous history and European settlement. ♦



New public washroom with shelters in the background



Word mural in the new public washroom building

Another Piece of Palermo Restored

As the former village of Palermo continues to develop, more of its historic homes are being retained and restored. One of the most recent examples is this 1 ½ storey house located on the west side of Bronte Road south of Dundas Street. Originally used as a residence for a small farm, the building was relocated slightly to the southeast of its original location and restored.

The house is a representative example of an early 20th century vernacular residence with Craftsman-inspired details. Constructed during the heyday of Palermo Village, the house is representative of the prosperity of the settlement at that time. The historic building formed part of a small semi-rural farm property that formerly included a barn, blacksmith shop and apple orchard. The house has been associated with historically well-known Palermo families, including the Lee family, the Dickenson family and the Bartman family.

While the village has changed dramatically, the remaining elements of Palermo are important in understanding the history of Oakville. The house maintains and supports the historical context of Old Bronte Road and is one of only three heritage homes remaining on the west side of Old Bronte Road. Its continued presence on the streetscape helps to tell the history of Palermo and rural village life of the 20th century. ♦



Restored brick and fish scale shingles



The restored house on Old Bronte Road

New Life at the Radial Railway Station

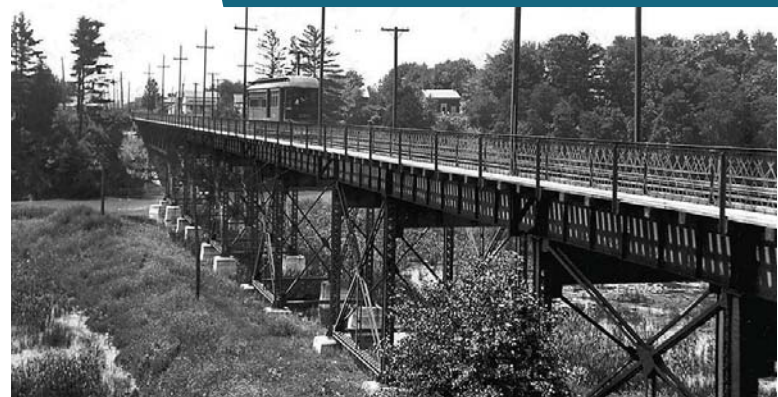
Built between 1906 and 1908, the former Radial Railway Station was a combined passenger building and substation that served local residents and visitors to Oakville. Service ran from Hamilton to Oakville and was operated by the Hamilton Radial Electric Company. The company eventually went bankrupt in 1925, largely due to the increasing use of the automobile. The building later served as the headquarters of the Oakville Water and Light Commission, later the Oakville Public Utilities Commission. Today it is significant as the last building on the Oakville-Hamilton line left in its original state.

The property was designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* in 1995. The building's most recent transformation has seen the interior space renovated for office use and a new third storey apartment added, along with a rear stairwell. The new additions are primarily of glass and metal construction which allow the brick walls of the station to remain the dominant features on the site.

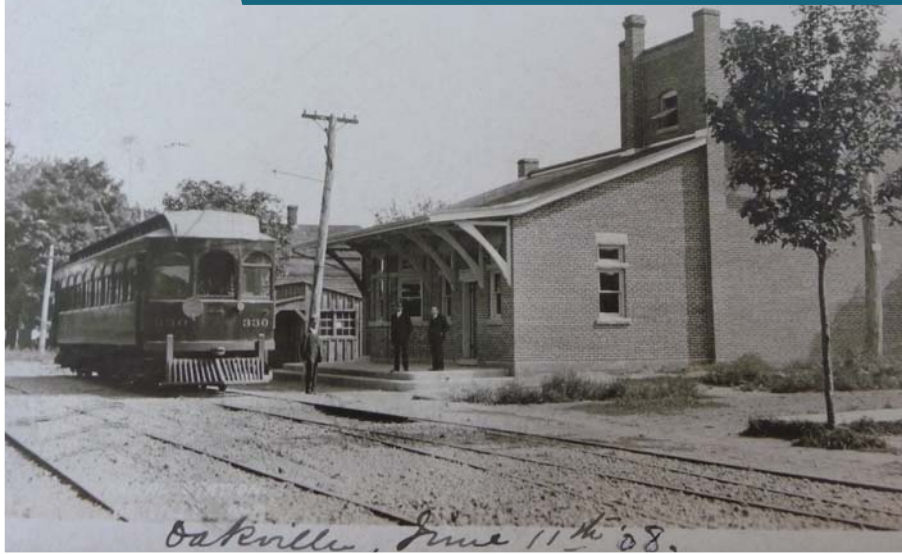
On the existing building, brickwork has been repointed and historically appropriate windows have been installed. Original window and door openings have been reinstated, including the front door, baggage door and transom windows, all of which had been bricked in by previous owners. On the interior, the original brick walls have been left exposed and the building's history has been commemorated through displays of historical photographs.

The restoration work, combined with the contemporary additions, has not only protected and enhanced the heritage attributes of the railway station building, it has given this important landmark a new lease on life. The building's life as a railway station may not have lasted long, but its significant role in the landscape of downtown Oakville can now continue for another century. ♦

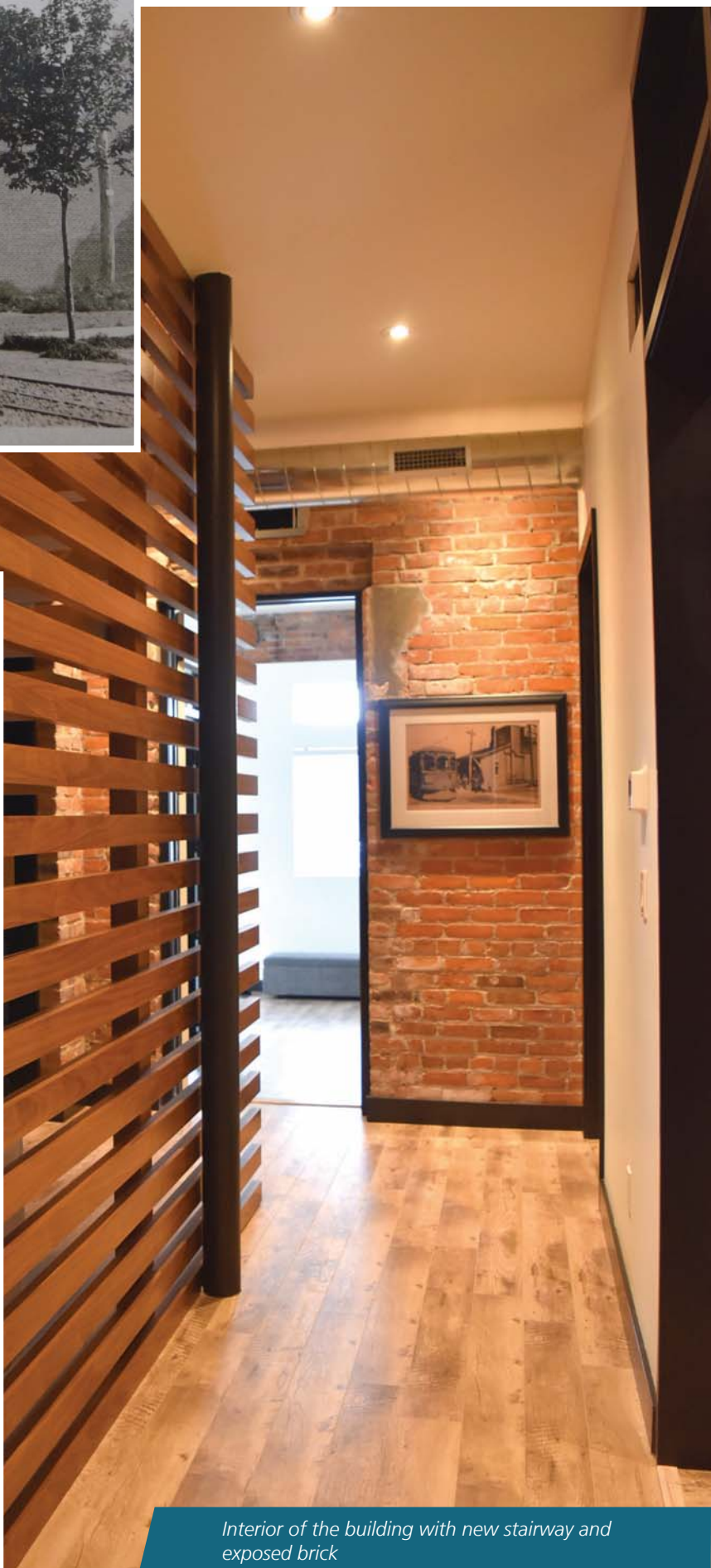
Radial Railway car crossing the bridge over Sixteen Mile Creek, 1909



The newly constructed Radial Railway Station, 1908



The restored building with new addition and reinstated windows and doors



Interior of the building with new stairway and exposed brick

Oakville's Newest Cultural Heritage Landscapes

View of Bronte Harbour



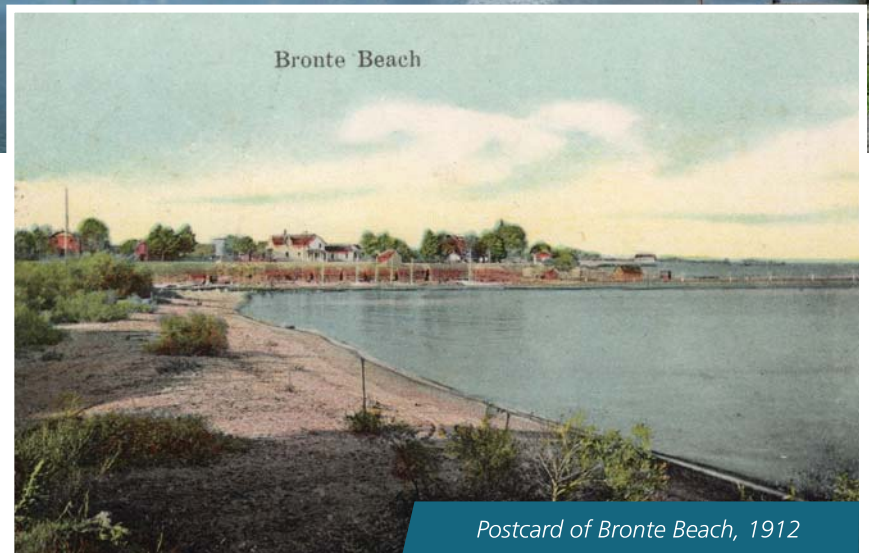
Bronte Harbour and Bronte Bluffs

On October 1, 2018, the Bronte Harbour and Bronte Bluffs were recognized as significant cultural heritage landscapes by Oakville Town Council. These properties were identified as high priority properties in the Town of Oakville's Cultural Heritage Landscapes Strategy in January 2016.

Council has directed staff to begin implementation of protection measures for the Bronte Harbour and Bluffs. Heritage Planning staff will be working with a consultant team to draft a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property and then, if required, a Cultural Heritage Landscape Conservation Plan.

The Bronte Harbour and Bronte Bluffs comprise a significant cultural heritage landscape as an evolved harbour landscape beginning in the mid-19th century. The harbour and the bluffs are directly associated with the early settlement and development of Bronte Village around the harbour, as well as the development of lakeside recreation destinations in the early to mid-20th century.

The cultural heritage landscape also played a significant role in the civic development of Bronte, including aspects of its early economy, as a gathering place and as a place of commemoration. While the use and design of the harbour area has evolved over time, it still maintains aspects that reflect each of the key



Postcard of Bronte Beach, 1912

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periods of its development. The harbour and the bluffs also have heritage value for their direct associations with Indigenous land-use of the area and with the Joyce family. Designation of the Bronte Harbour and Bronte Bluffs as a cultural heritage landscape helps to protect and conserve this important site for future generations and recognize its significance to the community.

Erchless Estate

On December 10, 2018, Oakville Town Council recognized the Erchless Estate as a significant cultural heritage landscape and directed staff to begin the implementation of protection measures. As an intact and rare example of an estate of wealthy settlers in early 19th century Upper Canada, it has cultural heritage value for its associations with the commercial development of the town and with these early settlers, notably the Chisholm family who founded Oakville. Prior to this European settlement, the property was an area of importance to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation who used the harbour until Treaty No. 22 was signed, after which the land was surveyed and developed by William Chisholm into what became Oakville.

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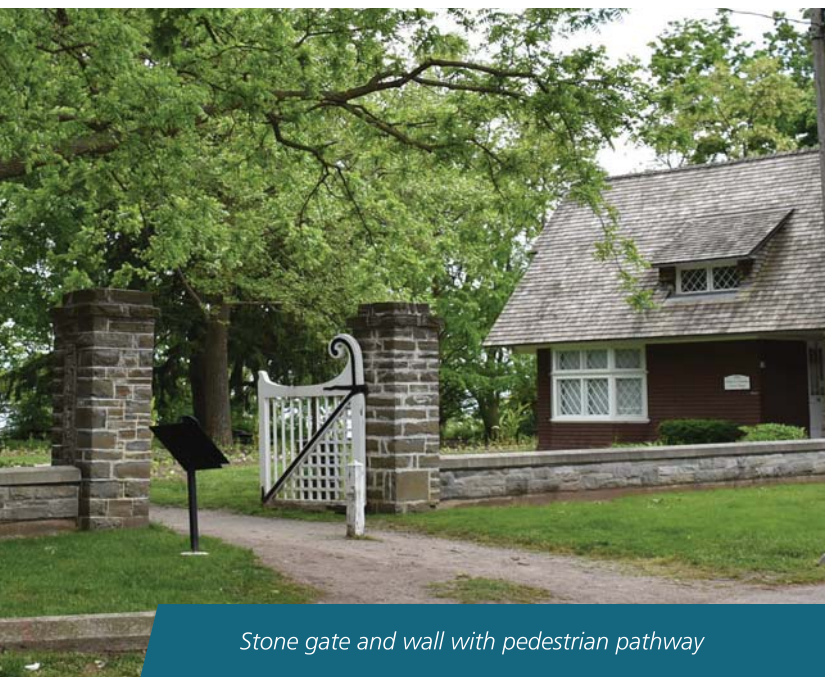


Erchless Estate with its existing gravel pedestrian pathway in the location of the original carriageway



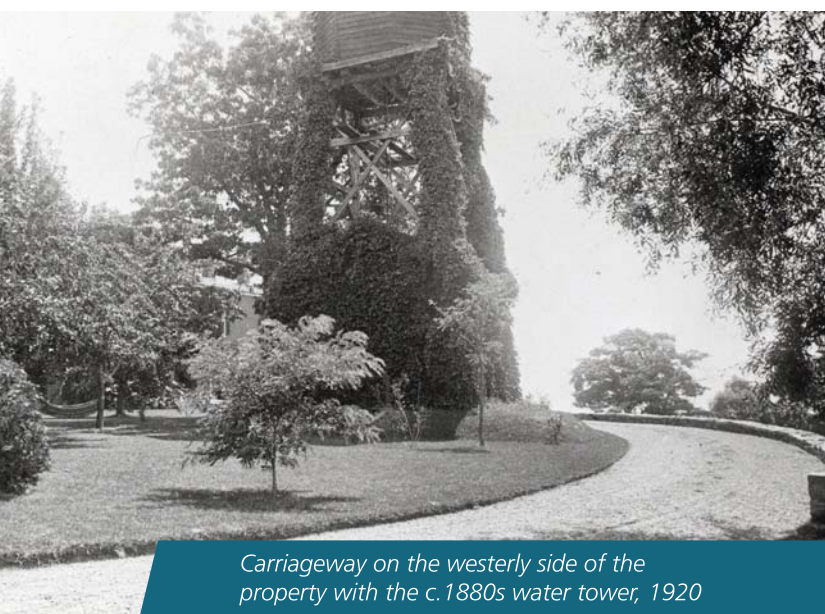
Carriageway and stone gate designed by Allan Chisholm, 1920

The Chisholm family owned, worked and lived on the property for over 140 years until 1966. The Town of Oakville purchased the property in 1970 and designated it under the new Ontario Heritage Act in 1976. After a great deal of restoration work, part of the estate opened as a museum in 1983. Today, the Oakville Museum at Erchless Estate operates out of the building and the Oakville Historical Society has its headquarters in the former cottages on the site. The protection of the property as a cultural heritage landscape will ensure that a proper conservation plan is in place for the long-term protection of not only the buildings but the landscape as well.



Stone gate and wall with pedestrian pathway

Allan Stuart Chisholm lived at Erchless from the 1860s until the early 20th century. In her archival notes, historian Hazel Chisholm Mathews tells the story of Allan wanting to extend the winding carriageway northward toward King Street and the new coach house. He sought the permission of his mother, Flora Matilda (Lewis) Chisholm, a request which she flatly refused. Being determined, Allan convinced his mother to take an extensive trip and by the time she came back, the new driveway was complete. This remnant of Allan's carriageway still exists today and serves as the gravel pedestrian pathway.



Carriageway on the westerly side of the property with the c. 1880s water tower, 1920



Pedestrian pathway and stone wall from the original carriageway

1086 Burnhamthorpe Road East

Home of the Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre, the property at 1086 Burnhamthorpe Road East was recognized as a significant cultural heritage landscape by Oakville Town Council on October 9, 2018.

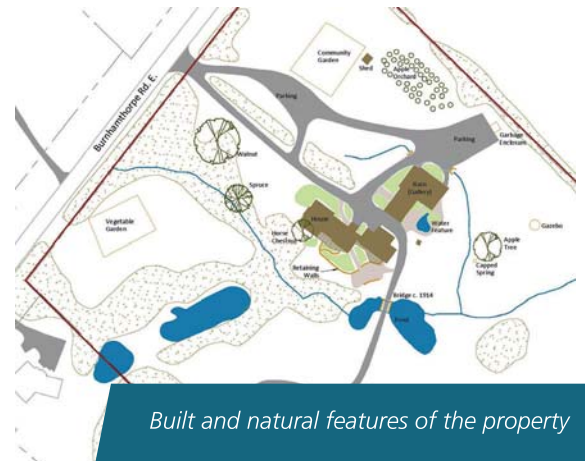
The cultural heritage landscape has heritage value as a representative example of an evolved landscape that was used by Canada's first peoples, including the Mississauga, and then transitioned into agricultural land for European settlement and most lately, a space for arts and culture. The cultural heritage landscape includes the farmhouse, the remnant structure of an 1827 shed now converted into a gallery and meeting space, a bank barn, concrete silo and concrete bridge, the Joshua Creek and valley, mature trees, paths and landscaped gardens.

The property is associated with Indigenous land-use of Joshua Creek and has the potential to yield information that contributes to the archaeological record of the area. The cultural heritage landscape is also directly associated with the Bowbeer and Fish families, early settlers in Trafalgar Township who built and lived on the farm property for many decades. The Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre layer of the evolved cultural heritage landscape is associated with Sybil Rampen, who has had a significant impact on the local artistic community. Sybil and her husband Leo Rampen took ownership of the property in 1956, after which time Sybil expanded the use of the property to become a hub for local arts and culture, creating the Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre.

The cultural heritage landscape is important in maintaining the rural character of the area and it is physically linked to its surroundings, primarily through Joshua Creek. Through its designation as a cultural heritage landscape, the Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre can continue its role as a local landmark and significant cultural site in Oakville. ♦



Likely members of the Fish family in front of the house, 1900



Built and natural features of the property



View of the pond, creek and buildings from the rear of the property



The c.1827 shed building rehabilitated for use as the Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre

Harry's Homes

Last year, Oakville and the local heritage community lost a significant friend and advocate, Harry Barrett. Most of you are aware of his many accomplishments during his lifetime: a veteran of World War II, Mayor of Oakville from 1973-1985, member of the Oakville Historical Society and the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee for many years, champion of the Harry Barrett Waterfront Park System, and winner of the Lieutenant Governor's Award by the National Trust for Canada. These are significant accolades and are indicative of his character and his desire to contribute to his community.

For many of us at Town Hall, our interaction with Harry was through the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee and his constant and caring drive to protect Oakville's heritage buildings. So, with that in mind, here is a little history of just three of the buildings that played a significant role in Harry's life.

The first building was the one that welcomed Harry into the world. The house at 140 Trafalgar Road is believed to have been built in 1834 and was at

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The house at 140 Trafalgar Road, 1897



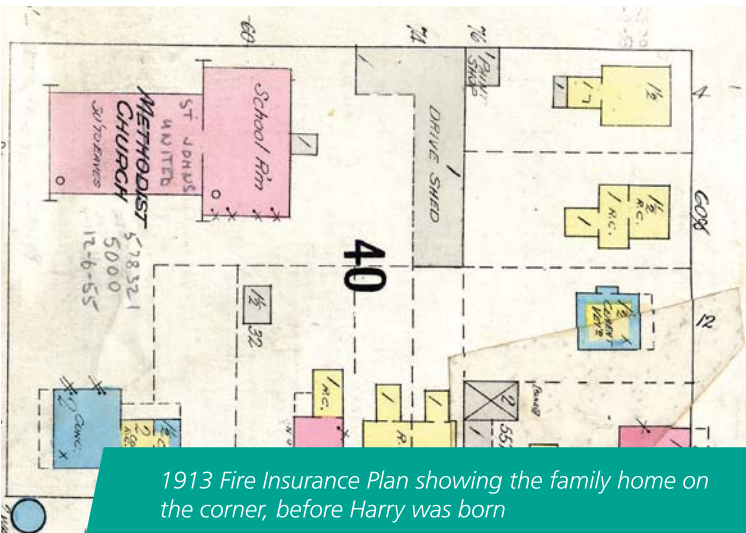
The house at 140 Trafalgar Road, 2019



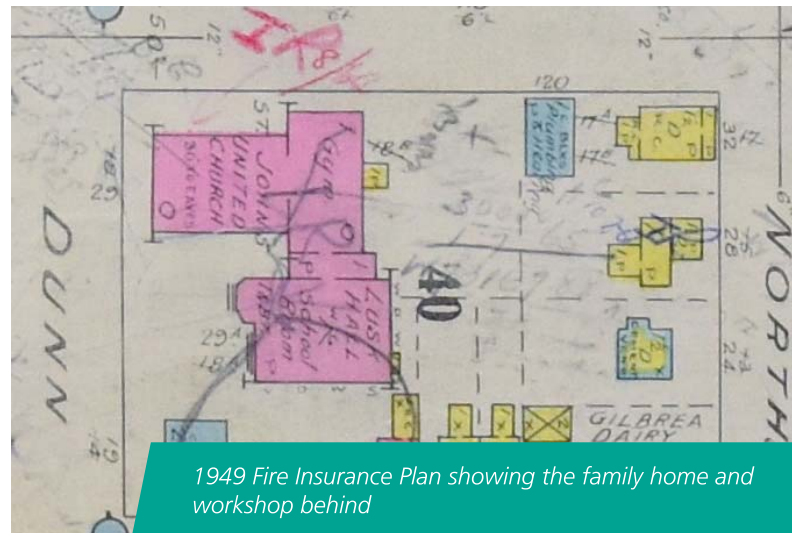
Harry as Vice-Chair of the Heritage Oakville Committee, 2016



The workshop at 268-270 Randall Street with the family home in the background



1913 Fire Insurance Plan showing the family home on the corner, before Harry was born



1949 Fire Insurance Plan showing the family home and workshop behind

one time used as an inn. Built of solid post and beam construction, the home is one of the oldest buildings in downtown Oakville. On an October day in 1925, Bertram Henry Barrett was born in the upstairs bedroom to his parents, George and Mary Barrett. Harry grew up with his mother's parents and sister living in the house next door. Behind his family's home was a yard for the animals and a small barn at the rear of the lot.

The second building supported Harry throughout his career as a plumber. After returning from

overseas at the end of the war, Harry started working with his father in the plumbing business. In 1946, the family built a workshop for their plumbing and heating business directly behind the family home. Now known as 268-270 Randall Street, the building included apartments on the second floor.

When Harry later took over the business, this was his workshop, and, as many of us have seen, a place to store all his many treasures. He was known to keep every kind of plumbing supply,

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Harry's home at 232 Burgundy Drive



Harry with his daughter Laurie and wife Jackie after winning the 1972 municipal election

just in case! His wife Jackie also used the building for her antiques shop called 'Morwenna' – the sign for the store remains on the building today.

Harry and Jackie were married in 1951 and, after their first daughter was born, they looked around for a house. As Harry often said, "Every Canadian dreams of owning a piece of land." Instead of finding a house, they found land, and decided to build. This third building was the home that supported and sheltered Harry and his family for over six decades.

In an article for the Oakville Historical Society called "Born to Be an Oakvillian", Harry talked about the construction of his home at 232 Burgundy Drive: "We decided to buy a lot, a third of an acre, just east of town, on some property owned by a chap I went to school with, Hugh Peckett. There was nothing around. It was kind of swampy with wild strawberries and asparagus. Still we paid \$4,200 which was a lot of money back then."

He and Jackie designed the 1400 square foot brick bungalow, which cost about \$16,000. The couple raised their two daughters Carol and Laurie in the home. The neighbourhood has changed considerably since those days, with most of the bungalows of the 1950s and 1960s replaced with large contemporary homes.

The family's home on Burgundy Drive remains a lovely example of a 1950s bungalow, complete with original wood windows, a rare sight these days. The house is a testament to Harry's handyman skills and his practical outlook which favoured repair and reuse over replacement. He was of a generation that, having lived through the Great Depression and World War II, had little time for waste and even less time for pomp. Instead, he focused on the good things in life – his family and his community. What a reminder for all of us.

Harry passed away in his home on Burgundy Drive on the morning of November 30, 2018. He was 93. And how lovely, to both enter this world and leave this world in a home that you love.

Harry, you will be missed. But you live on in countless buildings throughout Oakville. And, thanks to your passion for this community's built heritage, these structures will continue to define and anchor the community that you loved so dearly. Thank you. ♦

Outreach Programs

Presentation to Real Estate Board

In April 2018, staff gave their annual presentation to the Oakville, Milton and District Real Estate Board on heritage properties. Staff provided an overview of the provincial legislation and the town's policies for heritage properties that may have an impact on the sale of properties in Oakville. These presentations have been well-received and staff look forward to continue working with the Board in the future.

Presentation to Oakville Probus Club

Heritage Planner Carolyn Van Sligtenhorst, along with Senior Policy Planner Lesley Gill-Woods, gave a presentation to the Oakville Probus Club in September 2018. The presentation focused on land use planning in Oakville and how heritage conservation plays a role in the town's planning vision. There was a great deal of interest in heritage planning and staff were happy to have the opportunity to share this information.

If anyone is interested in Heritage Planning staff providing a presentation on heritage policies and processes, please contact staff. We are more than happy to share information to groups and organizations.

National Trust for Canada Conference

In 2018, the national conference for heritage conservation was held in Fredericton, New Brunswick from October 18-20. The theme was "Opportunity Knocks: Heritage as a Social, Economic and Placemaking Force". Heritage Planner Susan Schappert attended, representing the Town of Oakville in addition to the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals, of which she is now the President. The conference explored the transformative power of heritage to help turn places around and galvanize communities. Sessions covered topics such as heritage-led development, sustainability, museum/historic site regeneration and Indigenous heritage. ♦



Lighthouse on the Green in downtown Fredericton



New Brunswick College of Craft and Design, located in former barracks and warehouse buildings in downtown Fredericton

Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee

The mandate of Heritage Oakville is to advise Council on the identification, conservation and promotion of heritage resources in Oakville. The committee reviews and makes recommendations on planning and development applications for heritage properties, including alterations, removal and demolition. The committee also promotes heritage conservation through the support of heritage designations, heritage policy matters and public awareness of Oakville's historical resources.

The committee is currently made up of the following members:

Drew Bucknall, Chair
Geri Tino, Vice-Chair
Russell Buckland
Kerry Colborne
Councillor Cathy Duddeck
Robert Ferguson
Councillor Dave Gittings
George Gordon
Cindy Heinz
Susan Hobson
Daniela Hampton-Davies

Heritage Planning Staff

This newsletter was developed by the town's Heritage Planning staff, in collaboration with other town staff and members of the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee. For more information on any of these articles, please contact:

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Heritage Planning Online

For more information on Heritage Planning in Oakville, you can visit our website at oakville.ca and search "heritage planning" to find information on the following:

Heritage Grant Program

Information on how to apply for a heritage grant

Heritage Register

Outline of the different types of heritage properties, including links to the town's Heritage Register

Heritage Conservation Districts

Information on Oakville's four heritage conservation districts

Heritage Permits

Information and application forms for heritage permits

Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee

Overview of the committee, its members and meeting information

Heritage and Environmental Sustainability

Information and resources on heritage and the environment

Heritage and History

Information on heritage trails, memorials, cairns and resources for completing historical research

Heritage Planning Studies

Various heritage studies and policies

Heritage Mapping

Link to heritage layers in GIS mapping system



Apple pickers in orchards near Kerr Street and Speers Road using locally made baskets, 1915.