



BY-LAW NO. 2025-0054

A By-law to designate Blue Mountain School, located at 13802 Trafalgar Road, Ballinafad, Town of Halton Hills, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact a by-law to designate real property, including all of the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS authority was granted by the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills to designate the property at 13802 Trafalgar Road, Ballinafad, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the Blue Mountain School, as being of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as the Blue Mountain School, at 13802 Trafalgar Road, Ballinafad, and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to Designate the property and has caused Notice of Intention to be published on the Town's website per the Town's "Ontario Heritage Act – Alternate Notice Policy";

AND WHEREAS the Reasons for Designation are set out in Schedule "B" of this by-law;

AND WHEREAS on April 16, 2025, Council for the Town of Halton Hills approved Report No. PD-2025-020, dated March 27, 2025, in which certain recommendations were made relating to the designation of the subject property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the Blue Mountain School located at 13802 Trafalgar Road, Ballinafad, and further described in Schedule "A", is hereby designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as being of cultural heritage value or interest for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" attached to and forming part of this By-law;
2. THAT a copy of this By-law together with reasons for the designation be registered against the property and served in accordance with Section 29 of the Act;
3. THAT a notice of this By-law be published in accordance with Section 29 of the Act.

BY-LAW read and passed by the Council for the Town of Halton Hills this 16th day of June, 2025.

Originally Signed By:

MAYOR – ANN LAWLOR

Originally Signed By:

TOWN CLERK – VALERIE PETRYNIAK

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NO. 2025-0054

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

PT LT 29, CON 7 ESQ, PART 1, 20R1811; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING

PIN: 250070054

SCHEDULE “B” TO BY-LAW NO. 2025-0054

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Description of Property

The subject property is an irregular-shaped lot located on the southwest side of Trafalgar Road in the community of Ballinafad, in the Town of Halton Hills. The property contains a one-and-a-half-storey Ontario rural schoolhouse in the Gothic Revival architectural style, and is legally described as “PT LT 29, CON 7 ESQ, PART 1, 20R1811; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING”.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The Blue Mountain School at 13802 Trafalgar Road has physical and design value as a rare and representative example of an Ontario rural one-room schoolhouse in the Gothic Revival architectural style, in the community of Ballinafad, within the Town of Halton Hills. The one-and-a-half storey schoolhouse features design elements such as dichromatic brickwork, a gable roof, central vestibule with an entrance and transom, two windows along the front elevation with multiple windows along the side elevations, two double stack chimneys, and a date stone inscribed “School Section No. 14, A.D. 1871”.

The Blue Mountain School at 13802 Trafalgar Road has historical and associative value due to its associations with the early educational system in the community of Ballinafad. The student population began to grow with the establishment of *Common School Act* and the *Ontario School Act*, which introduced rates levied to support and construct new schools and later abolished the former fees for public schools and made attendance compulsory for children ages 7 to 12. These legislative changes provided government funds to construct and operate more schools for the growing school populations.

The property also has associations with Stewart Bennett, who attended the University of Toronto, obtaining a Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering Science, and served during WWI with the Royal Engineers. Eventually, Stewart left Toronto and moved to Acton in 1925 to join Beardmore & Co, later becoming the President of the company in 1944. In 1946, Stewart joined Canada Packers Inc. as vice-president, where he stayed until his retirement. Stewart was also on the Board of Directors of Dominion Stores Ltd. for 41 years, the Board of the Toronto Art Gallery, and was the chairman of the tariff committee of the Canadian Manufacturers’ Association. The Bennett family moved to the nearby Scotsdale Farm in 1940 and remained there for 42 years. Stewart and his wife, Violet were active members of the community and were heavily involved with St. Alban’s Church. Following Stewart and Violet’s passing in 1982, Scotsdale Farm was donated to the Ontario Heritage Trust, and still provides public trails for the community.

The Blue Mountain School at 13802 Trafalgar Road is important in defining, maintaining, and supporting the rural character of the community of Ballinafad. The former schoolhouse is physically, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings as an early schoolhouse that serviced School Section No. 14 in Ballinafad for more than 80 years.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 13802 Trafalgar Road that contribute to its physical and design value include:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the schoolhouse along Trafalgar Road in the community of Ballinafad within the Town of Halton Hills;
- The scale, form, and massing of the c.1871 one-storey stone schoolhouse with gable roof, twin double stack chimneys, and dichromatic brick detailing;
- Materials including red and buff brick, and stone;
- Front (northeast) elevation:
 - Buff brick quoins;
 - Flatheaded window openings with stone sills and buff brick soldier course lintels;
 - Front vestibule with buff brick quoins, semi-circular transom, radiating buff brick voussoir, and sidelights;

- Date stone inscribed “School Section No. 14 A.D. 1871”, surrounded by a buff brick square border and decorative brick lozenge pattern; and,
- Side (southeast and northwest) elevations:
 - Multiple flatheaded window openings with buff brick soldier course lintels and stone sills.

The identified heritage attribute of the property at 13802 Trafalgar Road, Ballinafad, that contributes to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing property as a late-nineteenth-century Ontario rural schoolhouse in the Gothic Revival architectural style along Trafalgar Road within the community of Ballinafad in the Town of Halton Hills.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 13802 Trafalgar Road, Ballinafad, that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing property as a late-nineteenth-century Ontario rural schoolhouse in the Gothic Revival architectural style along Trafalgar Road within the community of Ballinafad, in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the c.1871 Blue Mountain School on the southwest side of Trafalgar Road in the community of Ballinafad; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the one-and-a-half-storey late-nineteenth century Gothic Revival Ontario rural schoolhouse.