



BY-LAW NO. 2025-0060

A By-law to designate Wright Block, located at 99 – 103 Main Street South, Georgetown, 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 99 – 103 Main Street South, Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton, and known as the Wright Block, 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 Wright Block, at 99 – 103 Main Street South, Georgetown, 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 May 26, 2025, Council for the Town of Halton Hills approved Report No. PD-2025-021, dated May 7, 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 Wright Block located at 99 – 103 Main Street South, Georgetown, 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 7th day of July, 2025.

Originally Signed By:

MAYOR – ANN LAWLOR

Originally Signed By:

TOWN CLERK – VALERIE PETRYNIAK

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NO. 2025-0060

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

99 Main Street South:

PT LTS 4 & 5, PL 37, E OF MAIN ST OR S OF MILL ST, AS IN 611469; T/W & S/T
611469; HALTON HILLS

PIN: 250420044

103 Main Street South:

PT LT 4, 5 & 8, PL 37, E OF MAIN ST OR S OF MILL ST, AS IN 738944; T/W & S/T
738944. "S/T EASE H698005"; HALTON HILLS. "ADDED 2003 03 31"

PIN: 250420045

SCHEDULE “B” TO BY-LAW NO. 2025-0060

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Description of Property

The subject property is a rectangular-shaped lot located on the northeast side of Main Street South in the community of Georgetown within the Town of Halton Hills. The property contains a two-storey, mid-nineteenth-century commercial building, and is legally described as “99 Main Street South: PT LTS 4 & 5, PL 37, E OF MAIN ST OR S OF MILL ST, AS IN 611469; T/W & S/T 611469; HALTON HILLS; 103 Main Street South: PT LT 4, 5 & 8, PL 37, E OF MAIN ST OR S OF MILL ST, AS IN 738944; T/W & S/T 738944. "S/T EASE H698005"; HALTON HILLS. "ADDED 2003 03 31”.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The Wright Block at 99-103 Main Street South has physical and design value as a representative example of a mid-nineteenth-century commercial structure within downtown Georgetown. The two-storey building height, red brick exterior, vertical second-storey windows with articulated lintels and sills, and recessed entry doors are reflective of commercial buildings constructed along many main streets throughout Ontario during this time.

The property at 99-103 Main Street South has significant historical and associative value through its long-standing associations with key individuals and businesses in Georgetown’s early history. Constructed in 1858 by Henry Wright, a notable local merchant, the Wright Block originally housed his dry goods store and was among the first brick commercial buildings on Main Street.

After Wright’s death in 1866, the northern portion of the Wright Block at 99 Main Street South became the location of the Willson family’s furniture store and funeral parlour, operated by John G. Willson and later his son, William Harvey Willson, from 1881. This association with the Willson family, a prominent name in Georgetown’s business and service sectors, continued for several decades, making the building a significant site for community services such as funeral arrangements and furniture sales.

The southern portion of the Wright Block housed several notable businesses, including J.J. Gibbens’ bakery, which operated until World War II, and later the Georgetown Herald from 1950 to 1980. The building’s continuous use as a commercial property for over 160 years, along with its associations with prominent local figures and businesses, emphasizes its historical and associative value to Georgetown.

The Wright Block holds significant contextual value in defining, maintaining, and supporting the built heritage character of Georgetown’s downtown. Main Street South is characterized by its collection of nineteenth and early twentieth-century two-storey red brick commercial buildings, which served as the economic heart of the community during this period. As one of the earliest structures of its kind, the Wright Block continues to exemplify the architectural and commercial character that defines Main Street South. Alongside other prominent commercial buildings, the Wright Block plays a critical role in preserving the cohesive streetscape of Georgetown’s commercial core.

The heritage attributes of the property at 99 – 103 Main Street South that contribute to its physical and design value are identified as follows:

- The location, setback, and orientation of the two-storey, mid-nineteenth century commercial building within a commercial row in historic downtown Georgetown;
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey building with gable roof and red brick exterior;
- The materials, including red brick laid in a common bond pattern;
- The four symmetrically placed, flatheaded window openings on the second storey of the front (west) elevation;
- The window opening at the second storey of the side (north) elevation; and,

- The chimney on the south end of the gable roof.

The identified heritage attribute of the property at 99 – 103 Main Street South that contributes to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing property as a mid-nineteenth-century commercial structure along Main Street South within the community of Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 99 – 103 Main Street South contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing property as a mid-nineteenth-century commercial structure along Main Street South within the community of Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the c.1858 on the east side of Main Street in the community of Georgetown; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey brick commercial building.