



BY-LAW NO. 2024-0108

A By-law to designate First Baptist Church, located at 14 Main Street South, Georgetown, 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 14 Main Street South, Georgetown, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton, legally described as “LT 5 & PT LT 16, PL 33, AS IN 596897; HALTON HILLS”, and known as First Baptist Church, 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 First Baptist Church, located at 14 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 October 7, 2024, Council for the Town of Halton Hills approved Report No. PD-2024-009, dated August 30, 2024, 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 First Baptist Church, located at 14 Main Street South, 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 9th day of December, 2024.

Originally Signed By:

MAYOR – ANN LAWLOR

Originally Signed By:

TOWN CLERK – VALERIE PETRYNIAK

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NO. 2024-0108

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

LT 5 & PT LT 16, PL 33, AS IN 596897; HALTON HILLS

PIN: 250340030

SCHEDULE “B” TO BY-LAW NO. 2024-0108

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Description of Property

The property is a rectangular parcel located at 14 Main Street South along the southwest side of the roadway in Halton Hills and contains a one-storey brick church building. The property is legally known as “LT 5 & PT LT 16, PL 33, AS IN 596897; HALTON HILLS”. The property contains a mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival Church Building, formerly known as First Baptist Church.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property at 14 Main Street South has physical and design value as a representative example of a mid-nineteenth century Gothic Revival church building in the community of Georgetown, within the Town of Halton Hills. Indicative of the Gothic Revival style, 14 Main Street South features an oversized projecting central tower with a steeple 126 feet high, a steeply pitched roof, and several pointed arch windows, all of which emphasize the “soaring spire” and the overall verticality of the building. The building, designed by architect Henry Langley, also displays a high degree of craftsmanship and artistic merit. Langley was a prolific Ontario architect, known for his ecclesiastical architectural designs. In particular, he was renowned for his detail-oriented designs, which relied on principal drawings that he adapted to meet the requests of the Georgetown Baptists. The building, with its recessed, lancet-arched entrance, stepped brick surround, brick buttresses, and stone hood mould, reflects this attention to detail and craftsmanship.

Known as the First Baptist Church, the property at 14 Main Street South has significant historical and associative value due to its association with early Baptist Christian communities in Georgetown and the surrounding area, and with the growth of Baptist congregations within the Township of Esquesing. As the location of the First Baptist Church, featured prominently on Main Street, the property has a long association with the Georgetown community. The property is also associated with significant nineteenth-century community members in Georgetown, including the Deacon of the Church, Michael Dayfoot, who was the father of J.B. Dayfoot, the local shoe entrepreneur who established his famous Bootmaking factory with his brother in 1843. As well, the property is deeply associated with its designer, architect Henry Langley, a profoundly significant architect in Ontario in the nineteenth-century. Known as the “dean of ecclesiastical architecture in Ontario,” the First Baptist Church is one of seventy ecclesiastical buildings designed by Langley during his career, and one of many which he designed by adapting his famous principal drawings for ecclesiastical buildings.

The property at 14 Main Street South has contextual value as a long-standing ecclesiastical landscape along Main Street in the community of Georgetown. A landmark along Main Street, the red brick church with “soaring spire” has been in this location for over 150 years. While the property has evolved over time and is now an example of adapted re-use in the community, the church remains physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings within Georgetown.

Heritage Attributes

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 14 Main Street South that contribute to its physical and design value include:

- The setback, location, and orientation of the 19th century Gothic Revival church building along Main Street South in Georgetown within the Town of Halton Hills;
- The scale, form, and massing of the one-storey church building with central tower at the front elevation, including its stone foundation, red brick walls, and stone detailing;
- The materials, including brick exterior; stone foundation, sills, hood moulds, lintels, and detailing; wooden brackets, soffit, and louvres within existing openings;
- The central tower, featuring lancet-arched window and door openings, brick buttresses with stone coping, stone detailing and string courses, brick detailing, tower roof with dormers and spire;
- Lancet-arched window openings with stone sills and hood moulds throughout;
- Stepped brick buttresses delineating bays along the side elevations; and,
- Wooden brackets and soffits beneath the eaves.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 14 Main Street South that contribute to its historical and associative value includes:

- The legibility of the existing property as a 19th century Gothic Revival church building within the community of Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills.

The identified heritage attributes of the property at 14 Main Street South that contribute to its contextual value include:

- The legibility of the existing property as a 19th century Gothic Revival church building within the community of Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills;
- The setback, location, and orientation of the church building along Main Street South in Georgetown within the Town of Halton Hills; and,
- The scale, form, and massing of the one-storey church building with central tower at the front elevation, including its stone foundation, red brick walls, and stone detailing.