



**BY-LAW NO. 2022-0020**

A By-law to designate the Old Post Office and Customs House, located at 70 Mill Street, Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton, 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 70 Mill Street, Town of Halton Hills, Regional Municipality of Halton, known as the Old Post Office and Customs House, as being of cultural heritage value or interest;

**AND WHEREAS** on 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 Old Post Office and Customs House located at 70 Mill Street, and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to Designate the property, and has caused Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Municipality as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

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

**AND WHEREAS** on February 7, 2022, Council for the Town of Halton Hills approved Report No. PD-2022-0008, dated January 21, 2022, in which certain recommendations were made relating to the designation of the property at 70 Mill Street under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

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

1. THAT the Old Post Office and Customs House at 70 Mill Street, 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 Designation be registered against the property and served in accordance with Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and,
3. THAT a notice of this By-law be published in accordance with Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**BY-LAW** read and passed by the Council for the Town of Halton Hills this 11th day of April, 2022.

Originally Signed By:

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MAYOR – RICK BONNETTE

Originally Signed By:

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TOWN CLERK – VALERIE PETRYNIAK

**SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NO. 2022-0020**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

PIN: 250420038

PT LT 18, CON 9 ESQ, AS IN 685129; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING

## **SCHEDULE “B” TO BY-LAW NO. 2022-0020**

### **REASONS FOR DESIGNATION**

#### **Description of Property**

The Old Post Office and Customs House is located at 70 Mill Street (PT LT 18, CON 9 ESQ, AS IN 685129 ; HALTON HILLS/ESQUESING) in the Town of Halton Hills.

The property at 70 Mill Street is an irregular-shaped parcel located in Georgetown in the Town of Halton Hills. The property contains a two-storey, flat-roofed stone structure with elevated clock-tower and block foundation known as the Old Post Office, located on a bend in Mill Street with the Park Avenue intersection across the road and built into the hill rising to the west.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The Old Post Office and Customs House at 70 Mill Street has physical and design value as an excellent example of Art Deco civic architecture within the Town of Halton Hills, including features characteristic of Art Deco architecture in Ontario, including symmetry, vertical emphasis, repeated geometric patterns and motifs, stepped facade, and excellent craftsmanship. The building also highlights the execution of the design with local labour and materials, using materials found within Halton Region including local limestone and sandstone. The building is a rare example of an Art Deco post office of this scale in Ontario. Celebrating the supremacy of hydro-electricity, the clock tower atop the building is representative of the era, incorporating the latest in electrical public clocks while incorporating simplified gothic roman numerals and hands. The building may represent the finest work of local contractor J. B. Mackenzie and is comprised primarily of local limestone and sandstone from the Credit Valley quarries. It was built by local labour and employed a number of area craftsmen.

The Old Post Office and Customs House has historical and associative value due to its association with prominent Canadian architects J.E. Walker and J.G. Elliott, as well as local contractor J. B. Mackenzie. The property also is associated with the long struggle of the citizens of Georgetown to gain a federal building and the growing importance of the town to the economy of Ontario and Canada upon its construction. The Post Office and Customs House was a central hub of the community, acknowledged in the original inclusion of an assembly space within the public building. This is also one of very few public buildings in the area opened during the short reign of King Edward VIII.

The Old Post Office and Customs House has contextual value as a landmark within Georgetown’s historic downtown, defining the lower end of the central business district at the intersection of Mill Street and Park Avenue and supporting the historic character of the area. It is physically and historically linked to its surroundings and speaks of the former importance of this building to the history of Georgetown.

#### **Attributes that contribute to the design/physical value and historical/associative value of the property at 70 Mill Street:**

- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey stone Art Deco building with stone foundation;
- The flat roof with central clock tower at the primary elevation and parapet with decorative geometric sandstone detailing and motifs at the front elevation;
- The materials, including limestone, sandstone and copper detailing;
- Original wooden sash windows throughout, including sills, lintels, and surrounds;
- On the principal (south-east) elevation:
  - Centrally-located entrance, accessed by a concrete porch, with fenestration spanning two-storeys and including three window openings beneath the clock tower;
  - Symmetrically placed window openings on the first and second storeys;
  - The clock tower, including copper and stone detailing;
  - IBM clock face with Roman Numerals and electric clock;

- On the side and rear elevations:
  - Window openings at the first and second storeys;
- On the interior:
  - Southwest staircase with wood banister, metal balusters and brass newel cap;
  - Ceiling moulding and birch trim within the interior lobby; and,
  - Wooden double doors with stained-glass transoms at either end of the interior lobby.

**Attributes that contribute to the contextual value of the property at 70 Mill Street:**

- The scale, form, and massing of the two-storey stone Art Deco building with stone foundation; and,
- The setback, placement, and orientation of the 1935 building along Mill Street in the community of Georgetown;