

331 Clair Road East: James Hanlon Farmhouse

Notice of Objection to
Intention to Designate



Photograph of the James Hanlon Farmhouse in 2023 (Heritage Planning Staff)

History of Property

- In 1832, John Hanlon arrived in the Puslinch from County Carlow, Ireland with his wife Ellen Lynch and 2-year-old son James.
- The original Crown Patent for the property was granted to John in 1849, but it is possible that the family had occupied the property since the early 1830s.
- The existing stone farmhouse was built by John Hanlon's son James Hanlon and his partner Mary (Moore) Hanlon in 1864, likely replacing an earlier log house
- In 1908 the stone farmhouse at 331 Clair Road East left Hanlon family ownership and was sold to James N. Barclay.



Photograph of Mary (Moore) Hanlon and James Hanlon (Photograph courtesy of Barbara Skinner)

Statement of Significance

- The subject property meets Criterion 1 because it is a representative example of the nineteenth-century Ontario farmhouse form and style.
- subject property meets Criterion 2 because it exhibits a high degree of craftsmanship in the execution of its original stonework and exterior wood trim.
- The subject property meets Criterion 4 because of its direct ties to the Hanlon family, an important settler family of Puslinch Township and what is now the City of Guelph. The Hanlon family has a long history in the area and the farmhouse is tied to three generations of the Hanlon family.
- The subject property meets Criterion 7 because it is important in defining, maintaining, and supporting the historical character of the Clair Road East streetscape and as a vestige of the early farming landscapes of Puslinch Township and what is now Guelph.



Photograph of the James Hanlon Farmhouse (Photograph courtesy of Barbara Skinner)

Heritage Attributes

- Vernacular one-and-a-half storey fieldstone farmhouse with rectangular plan
- 3-bay façade with rectangular window openings and central door opening
- Central door opening, including sidelights and transom
- All original window and door openings
- All stone sill and lintels at window and door openings
- Side-gabled roof with overhang/return eaves, original wood soffits and fascia with large paired dentil design
- Paired stone chimneys above the roofline at the east and west elevations
- Central moderately-pitched front gable with arched stone lintel
- Stone construction with parging and pointing to resemble cut stone blocks
- Large stone quoins at all corners of the main portion of the building



Photograph of the James Hanlon Farmhouse in 2023 (Heritage Planning Staff)

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommend that Council continue with its intention to designate 331 Clair Road East and issue the proposed heritage designation By-law Number (2024) – 20893 (seen in Attachment-3) for 331 Clair Road East in order to meet the prescribed deadlines of the legislation.