

Advisory Committee of Council Staff Report



To	Heritage Guelph
Date	Monday, May 6, 2024
Subject	72 Gordon Street: Heritage Attributes and Designation Recommendation

Recommendation

1. That Heritage Guelph supports the heritage attributes identified for 72 Gordon Street as outlined in the staff report dated May 6, 2024; and
 2. That Heritage Guelph recommends that City Council give notice of its intention to designate 72 Gordon Street pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.
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Executive Summary

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Heritage Guelph supports the proposed heritage attributes for 72 Gordon Street and that Heritage Guelph recommends that Council publish its intention to designate 72 Gordon Street pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Report

Location

The subject property is located on the southeast corner of Gordon and Surrey Streets. The legal description is Plan 8, Lot 149 & 155. 72 Gordon is located within the territory covered by Treaty Number 3, which was signed in 1792, between the Mississaugas of the Credit and the British Crown, and on the traditional hunting ground of the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Statement of Significance

The subject property is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act because it meets six of the nine prescribed criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest, according to Ontario Regulation 9/06 as amended by 569/22. The heritage attributes of 72 Gordon Street display: design/physical, historical/associative, and contextual value.

Design/Physical Value

The subject property meets Criterion 1 because it is a rare and representative example of the functional industrial building type from the interwar period. The 1929 construction is one of few extant factory buildings that showcase early twentieth-century industrial architecture in Guelph, and the last remaining example in this former industrial area.

Historical Associative Value

The subject property meets Criterion 4 because it has direct associations with the MacKey Bread Company, a company that made significant contributions to the development of the industrialization of bread production in Ontario.

The subject property meets Criterion 5 as it yields information that contributes to the understanding of the Guelph community because it is associated with the development of the food-production industry in Guelph.

Contextual Value

The subject property meets Criterion 7 because the property is important in defining, maintaining, and supporting the character of the Gordon and Surrey streetscapes.

The subject property meets Criterion 8 because the property is functionally, visually, and historically linked to the former industrial lands located to the south of the historic downtown core. The location further reflects the history of Gordon Street, Huron Road (now Waterloo Avenue), and the Grand Trunk Railroad as thoroughfares for the transportation of goods to nearby towns.

Heritage Attributes

The following elements of the property at 72 Gordon Street should be considered as heritage attributes in a designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act:

- 1-storey flat roof building form
- Red rug brick exterior walls on the west elevation (facing Gordon Street), including pilasters with corbelled heads and stepped plinths to recessed panels
- Red rug brick exterior walls on the north elevation (facing Surrey Street), including pilasters with corbelled heads and stepped plinths to recessed panels
- Original window openings on the west elevation (facing Gordon Street) and the north elevation (facing Surrey Street)
- Stepped parapet wall on the west and north elevations
- Two red brick chimneys

Staff Recommendation

Staff have completed an evaluation of the subject property and determined that the brick factory building at 72 Gordon Street meets five of the prescribed criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest, according to Ontario Regulation 569/22. Staff recommend that the property should be designated under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Attachments

Attachment-1 72 Gordon Street: Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report

Attachment-2 Historic Documents and Maps

Attachment-3 Current Photographs

Report Author

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