

Staff Report



To	City Council
Service Area	Infrastructure, Development and Environment
Date	Tuesday, July 15, 2025
Subject	18 Paisley Street: Notice of Intention to Designate

Recommendation

1. That the City Clerk be authorized to publish and serve notice of intention to designate 18 Paisley Street pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.
 2. That the designation bylaw be brought before Council for approval if no objections are received within thirty (30) day objection period.
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Executive Summary

Purpose of Report

In November 2022, the Government of the Province of Ontario passed Bill 23 (amended by Bill 185), which made changes to the Ontario Heritage Act that will remove all non-designated properties from the Municipal Heritage Register on January 1, 2027. Heritage planning staff and the Heritage Advisory Committee have been reviewing properties on the Municipal Heritage Register for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council publish its intention to designate 18 Paisley Street pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The cultural heritage significance and heritage attributes of the property are described in this report.

Key Findings

18 Paisley Street is listed as a non-designated built heritage resource on the City of Guelph's Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties under Part IV, Section 27 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

A property may be designated under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act if it meets two or more of the criteria used to determine cultural heritage value or interest as set out in Ontario Regulation 9/06 (as amended by Ontario Regulation 569/22; see Attachment-1).

Heritage planning staff, in consultation with the Heritage Advisory Committee, have completed a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report and

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. Staff have determined that the property meets three of the nine criteria used to determine cultural heritage value according to Ontario Regulation 9/06 (as amended by O. Reg 569/22) under the Ontario Heritage Act. Therefore, the property merits individual heritage designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Strategic Plan Alignment

The key findings and recommendations of this report align with 2024-2027 Strategic Plan priority 6.1.4 to conserve our cultural heritage resources.

Future Guelph Theme

City Building

Future Guelph Objectives

City Building: Grow and care for our community space and places

Financial Implications

None.

Report

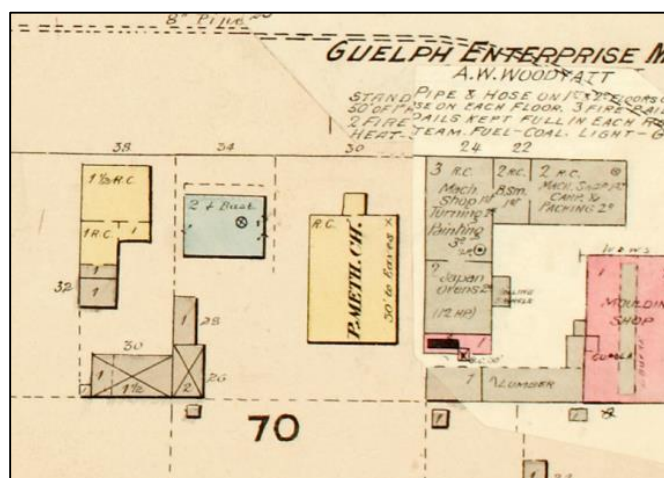
Location

The subject property is located at 18 Paisley Street, between Dublin Street and Norfolk Street. The legal description is Pt. Lot 1039, Plan 8.

Statement of Significance

The stone cottage on 18 Paisley Street was constructed to serve as the manse for the Paisley Street Primitive Methodist Church, once located directly to the east of the cottage. The Paisley Street Primitive Methodist Church was the second location for the Methodist congregation, having relocated from Waterloo Street as their congregation outgrew the church.

Figure 1: Detail from the 1881 Fire Insurance Plan showing the Paisley Street Primitive Methodist Church and manse (1881 Fire Insurance Plan, Sheet 13)



The property on Paisley Street was purchased in 1863 by Reverend Thomas Adams and the trustees of the Primitive Methodist Church: Joseph Ryan, William Welsh, William Brown, John Brown, and John Hoskin. The contract to build the Church was awarded to trustee Joseph Ryan, who was a contractor in Guelph. The Paisley Primitive Methodist Church was built in 1863 of limestone, with Romanesque arched windows and doorways and a portico at the main entrance of the building.

The members of the congregation submitted a request for a manse to the General Missionary Committee in 1848, which was initially denied. Approval to build a manse was not granted until 1872, due to a housing crisis in Guelph and the inability of the Primitive Methodist congregation to find suitable accommodation for a minister. The cottage was built in 1872 and cost \$1428 to build, with the funds collected by donations from congregation members and the trustees. A celebration was held in January of 1873 for the completion of the building. Reverend Robinson was the first minister to reside in the cottage. The property accommodated the Primitive Methodist ministers and their families and served as a location for social events and weddings.

Figure 2: Photograph of The Paisley Street Methodist Church after the fire in 1907 (Guelph Museums, 2009.32.2825)



The Paisley Street Primitive Methodist Church burnt down in 1907 and the congregation relocated to the Paisley Memorial United Church on 40

Margaret Street. Today, the manse at 18 Paisley Street is the only structure on the site that conveys the history of the Paisley Primitive Methodist Church.

Determination of Cultural Heritage Value

Figure 3: A photograph of 18 Paisley Street in 1974 from the Couling Architectural Inventory



The stone cottage at 18 Paisley Street is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act because it meets four of the nine prescribed criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest, according to Ontario Regulation 9/06 as amended by 569/22. The subject building at 18 Paisley Street has design and physical value, historical and associative value, and contextual value.

Design/Physical Value

The subject property meets criterion 1 because it is a representative example of a nineteenth-century stone cottage with Neoclassical architectural details.

The subject property meets criterion 2 because of the skill and knowledge required to construct a limestone structure that remains in good condition.

Historical/Associative Value

The subject property meets criterion 4 because it is directly associated with the history of the Paisley Street Primitive Methodist Church that was built in 1863 and destroyed by fire in 1907.

The subject property meets criterion 5 because it yields information about early Methodism in the City of Guelph.

Heritage Attributes

The following elements of the property at 18 Paisley Street should be considered as heritage attributes in a designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act:

Building form including:

- One-story stone cottage
- Hipped roof Exterior walls, including:
 - Quarry-faced stone exterior walls
 - Door openings
- Neoclassical porch, including:
 - Front gable roof
 - Stone pediments
 - Wood columns

Consultations and Engagement

Research assistance was provided by Selena Andrez, a University of Guelph student in the course "If Walls Could Talk: Heritage Planning in Guelph".

A letter was sent to the property owners on April 17, 2025.

At the [May 1, 2025, meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee](#), the committee passed the following motion:

1. That the Heritage Advisory Committee advises City Council that 18 Paisley Street merits designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act; and
2. That the Heritage Advisory Committee advises City Council that the committee supports the heritage attributes for 18 Paisley Street as outlined in the Heritage Planning staff report dated May 1, 2025.

Attachments

Attachment-1 Ontario Regulation 9-06 Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Departmental Approval

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