

Attachment-2 Objection to Notice of Intention to Designate 30 and 32 Eramosa Road

Good afternoon Mr. Mallon,

As owners of 30 & 32 Eramosa Road) were notified of a city staff report dated Tuesday, April 8, 2025 with a notice of Intention to Designate the properties.

On behalf of myself as owner of 30 Eramosa Road and the owner of 32 Eramosa Road, we wanted to follow-up on the City of Guelph's notice of intention to designate both addresses. As you will see below, we have a few concerns about the historical accuracy of what is being presented in the notice and staff report. Should the committee wish to continue and pursue designation, we will be raising our concerns at a future Council meeting to contravene or further expand accuracy of what the staff report has identified. Please note that we do not wish to voluntarily designate these properties, and in addition we strongly object to the Notice of Intention.

We have noted items identified in the staff report as per:

Design/Physical Value

The subject property does not meet criterion 1 because it does not present as an early example of an iron foundry in the City of Guelph. Rather the property presents as I was converted into duplex residential property as of 1922. It should be noted that the property was converted in 1922 and over 100 years later Heritage Guelph is now misrepresenting the relationship of the current property since 1922 to its former commercial use. There are also a number of significant physical built structural changes as the property now appears as a residential dwelling versus its physical built form as purported foundry. Based on the statement of Design/Physical Value we feel there is a major disconnect that Heritage Guelph is presenting in the staff report.

Under this criterion as well, a third-party local mason has identified that the craftsmanship in limestone construction does not in fact display a high degree of craftsmanship. In fact, the limestone construction presents as a poor to weak construction as there is a high degree of stone rubble and also the poor craftsmanship of the exterior parging. Other examples of limestone construction in the immediate area do show a high degree of craftsmanship providing a very visible contradiction to the Staff Report.

Historical/Associative Value

The subject property does not meet criterion 2 because it does not have a direct association with Adam Robertson as the property was converted in 1922 into residential use and over 100 years later Heritage Guelph is now misrepresenting the relationship of the current property and relationship with Adam Robertson. There is no identifiable relationship of the property in its current residential state to Adam Robertson. It has also been noted that Adam Robertson was an industrialist that was a supported the Confederate soldiers who were fighting to achieve a separate and independent country based on what they called "Southern institutions," the chief of which was the institution of slavery. It would be unimaginable to think Heritage Guelph would wish to support associations of Adam Robertson, his industrialization, and his sympathetic political views of the Confederates in the American Civil War. Rather, let's try to hold Heritage Guelph to a higher benchmark as we have remarkable contributions to our community like McCrea House. In addition, Adam Robertson's property at 25 Mitchell Street (Ferndell) is already identified and associated with him, he does not need another.

Contextual Value

The following building form attributes are inaccurate as presented to the context of the notice of intention. The building form attributes have no tie to the historical aspects of the commercial aspect of a foundry. The attributes are from the conversion in 1922 to a residential property, which has no ties to historical value. The features identified are not original to the foundry whatsoever as the building for has changed significantly, including demolition of built structures, moving of window and door openings, addition of windows and covered front entry that is not original to the property. The hipped roof porch is not of historical significance as it was a later addition and was in fact built in recent years. There was a report of the entire structure being rebuilt as the house was hit with a vehicle in the 1990s. As well, it was identified that original window opening are included as a significant attribute, however, historical images clearly dispute this fact that the majority of window and door openings are not original.

This notice of objection will be delivered in-person by 4:00pm on Friday, May 16, 2025

Very best,

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