

## THE CORPORATION OF HALDIMAND COUNTY

By-law Number /18

**Being a by-law to amend former Corporation of the Town of Haldimand By-Law No. 403/83 being a by-law to designate the property at 146 Forfar (Old Caledonia Mill) to be of cultural heritage value and interest**

**WHEREAS** By-law No. 403/83 designated the property at 146 Forfar Street (Old Caledonia Mill) under Part IV the *Ontario Heritage Act (the Act)*;

**WHEREAS** section 30.1.(2) to (10) of the Act authorizes the council of a municipality to amend designating by-laws to clarify or correct the statement explaining the property's cultural heritage value or interest or the description of the property's heritage attributes and correct the legal description of the property;

**WHEREAS** Haldimand County Council caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known municipally 146 Forfar Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to amend By-law No. 403/83 and caused the Notice of Intention to be posted in local media on the County's web site for a period of 30 days Notice requirements under the Act;

**WHEREAS** the revised legal description is attached as Schedule "A" to this by-law;

**WHEREAS** the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and the Description of Heritage Attributes is attached as Schedule "B" is attached to this by-law;

**WHEREAS** no Notice of Objection to the proposed amendments has been served on the Clerk, Haldimand County;

**AND WHEREAS** in order to register the amending by-law on title to the property it is necessary to update the legal description in By-law No. 403/83,

**NOW THEREFORE, the Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County enacts as follows:**

1. **THAT** By-Law 403/83 be hereby amended to included Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" as attached hereto to provide the full legal description and Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest for the real property legally described as PIN # 38162-0141(LT), being Part Lot 13, Plan 331 Oneida, Part 2 on 18R-1671; Part of Forfar Street, Plan Town of Caledonia, stopped up and closed by by-law 1776/17 (inst. CH79852), Parts 1 & 2 on 18R-7468; Haldimand County.
2. **THAT** the Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of the by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law;

3. **THAT** this by-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of the final passage hereof at which time all by-laws that are inconsistent with the provisions of this by-law are hereby repealed insofar as it is necessary to give effect to the provisions of this by-law.
4. **AND THAT** By-law 1904/18 is hereby repealed.

READ a first and second time this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018.

READ a third time and finally passed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018.

---

MAYOR

---

DEPUTY CLERK

**Schedule “A”****Legal Description**

The subject lands are described as PIN # 38162-0141(LT), being Part Lot 13, Plan 331 Oneida, Part 2 on 18R-1671; Part of Forfar Street, Plan Town of Caledonia, stopped up and closed by by-law 1776/17 (inst. CH79852), Parts 1 & 2 on 18R-7468; Haldimand County.

## **Schedule “B”**

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

Known municipally as 146 Forfar Street West, the property is located in the heart of Caledonia, on the south side banks of the Grand River within a short distance from the downtown core. It is bordered by the Grand River to the north, Forfar Street to the south, an open park area to the east, and the millrace to the west.

The Property provides a panoramic view of surrounding landscapes and the Grand River (a Canadian Heritage River). The Old Mill Property is significant as it reminds residents and visitors of Caledonia’s early development related to the heyday of river navigation and transportation by rail and road.

The Old Mill Property has historical and associative value for its connections to James Little.

James Little immigrated to Upper Canada from Ireland in 1823 and worked as a contractor on the Welland Canal. In 1833, Little was employed by William Hamilton Merritt to work on the Grand River Navigation Company where he worked in construction, surveyed the river for dam and lock sites and managed the company from 1835 to 1840.

James Little built what was then known as the “Little Mills”, on the south side of the Grand River ca. 1850, in the small village known then as “Sunnyside” and in 1857 began to process wheat into flour. Little, an entrepreneur and local postmaster, owned and managed the Mill for a few years before selling it to J.B. Holden and John Scott in 1861. The mill was renamed Balmoral Mills and later Grand River Mills when Messrs. McQuarrie, Thorburn & Munroe took ownership in the 1870s. McQuarrie, Thorburn & Munroe also owned the Caledonia Mills located on the opposite bank of the River. The company was highly respected as millers and grain dealers, and Caledonia was considered one of the best markets for grain in the country.

The Property also has associative value for its connections to Ranald McKinnon, considered by many to be the founder of Caledonia. Ranald McKinnon arrived in the area in 1835 to work on the fifth dam, lock and canal. The Caledonia dam was the last to be built; it extended across the River and produced 300 H.P. providing power to a saw mill, woolen mill and two grist mills.

Contextually, the Old Mill Property has value because it is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the area; it is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings. In particular, the Old Mill Property retains its relationship to the former Caledonia Mill - the last mill to be in operation along the Grand River using waterpower - which stood on the site from 1850 to 2017; the site is an important connection to the early commercial and industrial history of Caledonia.

Remnants of the concrete flume (located to the west of the mill) which brought water into the mill site are still visible. Also visible are two concrete barriers which jut out into the River; which would have been directly below the original mill

structure. These structures were used to divert water and manage flow and support the old foundation wall on either side of the raceway opening.

The Old Mill Property has been a favourite spot for locals, tourists, photographers and artists alike to enjoy the scenic views of the Grand River and enjoy the simple pleasures of walking, hiking, cycling, and birdwatching.

### **Character Defining Elements**

Character defining elements that contribute to the heritage value of the Old Caledonia Mill Property include:

- The setting of the Property on the south side banks of the Grand River
- The panoramic views of the Grand River
- Elements related to former headrace including concrete walls
- Key views including:
  - The Caledonia Dam – The original had been constructed of logs requiring yearly repairs from spring ice damage. It received a cement apron in the 1920's, for it still served the purpose of supplying power to the Caledonia Milling Company. The Caledonia Dam was replaced in 1980 and is located just downstream from the original; it incorporates fish ladders to facilitate migration of fish up the Grand River.
  - The Railway Bridge – the original structure was once a wooden trestle, converted to iron in 1886 and later to the solid deck bridge still in use today.
  - The “island” located in the middle of the Grand River which is home to waterfowl and other birds.
  - Caledonia Bridge: The only nine span, concrete bridge in Canada and perhaps North America. Built in 1927.
  - Natural vegetation, trees, rocks on the lower level of the river bank to the northwest corner of the Property.
  - Elements relating to its use as a mill including the flume and the concrete buttresses.
  - North side: Remnants of Lock 5 are still visible during periods of low water level.