



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** Members of the General Committee

**From:** Blair Nelson, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning and Growth Management

**Meeting Date:** August 5, 2025

**Report:** Designation of 1290 Hilliard Street, Report IPGPL25-039

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## Subject

A report to recommend that Council consider the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee's recommendation that the property municipally known as 1290 Hilliard Street – The Stothart Farmhouse be designated under Part IV, Section 29 of the **Ontario Heritage Act**, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 as being a property of cultural heritage value or interest to the City of Peterborough.

## Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report IPGPL25-039, dated August, 5, 2025, of the Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning and Growth Management as follows:

- a) That the recommendation of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC) that Council designate the property at 1290 Hilliard Street as a heritage property under Part IV, Section 29 of the **Ontario Heritage Act** R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 being of "cultural heritage value or interest" be received; and,
- b) That Council take the following actions should it concur with the recommendation of the PACAC to designate the property at 1290 Hilliard Street as a heritage property under Part IV, Section 29 of the **Ontario Heritage Act** R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 being of cultural heritage value or interest:
  - i. Serve Notice of Intention to Designate 1290 Hilliard Street and provide public notice of that intention in a newspaper having general circulation in

the municipality as per the **Ontario Heritage Act** R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, s.31 (3);

- ii. Serve the owner of the property to be designated and the Ontario Heritage Trust with a Notice of Intention to Designate as per the **Ontario Heritage Act** R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, s.21 (3)

## Executive Summary

- A report to consider PACAC's recommendation that Council designate the property municipally known as 1290 Hilliard Street under Part IV, Section 29 of the **Ontario Heritage Act**, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18.
- The property at 1290 Hilliard Street has been evaluated and is considered to be a property of cultural heritage value or interest to the City of Peterborough.
- The property owner has been notified of the PACAC's recommendation for designation of the property by a letter dated June 4, 2025.

## Background

Under Part IV of the **Ontario Heritage Act**, municipalities may designate individual properties deemed to be of "cultural heritage value or interest" to the community, through the passage of municipal By-laws. The designation process strikes a balance between the interests of the individual property owners and the recognized need of the community to preserve its heritage resources. Heritage designation prohibits unwarranted demolition and controls alterations that might harm specific heritage features.

Designation may also make property owners eligible for preservation grants and tax relief and provides owners access to professional expertise and advice. Since 1975, Peterborough City Council has passed 143 individual designation By-laws, although this only represents a portion of the buildings in the city that are eligible for designation. The Planning, Development & Urban Design Division administers the designation program in partnership with the PACAC and the City Clerk's Office.

PACAC considers the property at 1290 Hilliard Street worthy of heritage designation as it meets two or more criteria outlined in Regulation 9/06 of the Act. A designation brief for 1290 Hilliard Street was received by the PACAC at their meeting of June 3, 2025. The committee approved a motion that its opinion, that the property be designated under Part IV of the Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, be forwarded to Council.

## Short Statement of Reasons for Designation

### 1290 Hilliard Street – The Stothart Farmhouse

1290 Hilliard Street has cultural heritage value as a landmark building in Peterborough's north end. It is a unique example of the Gothic farmhouse with three gables, rare in Peterborough. It employs key elements of the rural execution of this style including rubble stone construction and hatched windows.

It has historical value as a longtime farmhouse and home of the Stothart family. The Stothart family were heavily involved in Peterborough's farming community in the late nineteenth-early twentieth centuries, organizing agricultural fairs and by contributing to agricultural science nationally. Although businesses related to their ideas or work in the community were not fully realized, they continued to showcase the farming community to the citizens of Peterborough.

1290 Hilliard Street, surrounded by modern houses, stands out as a symbol of the area's history. It stands as a reminder of the farming practices of the past while also showcasing the growth of the city.

## Strategic Plan

Strategic Pillar: Community & Well-being

Strategic Priority: Enhance the natural, recreational, sports, the arts, and cultural aspects of our community.

The work of the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC) and the Heritage Preservation Office directly addresses and works to enhance the cultural aspects of our community. The PACAC's work also strives to "demonstrate strong leadership in environmental stewardship by proactively addressing issues and challenges of climate change and the environment" through the preservation of heritage as a critical part of building climate change resilience.

## Engagement and Consultation

The Ontario Heritage Act does not require the consent of a property owner for Council to serve notice of its intention to designate a property because the law provides for an owner to object and have that objection considered by the Ontario Land Tribunal. While the Act does not require a municipality to notify the owner that their property is being considered for designation it has always been the practice in Peterborough to inform the owner.

On March 17, 2025, Council received and amended the recommendations of Report IPGPL25-015 which outlined a list of 56 properties that had been prioritized by the PACAC for designation. The owner of 1290 Hilliard Street was notified that the PACAC

had prioritized the property for designation by letter on March 4, 2025. The owner was further notified of the PACAC's recommendation that Council designate the property by registered mail on June 5, 2025. As of the writing of this report, the property owner has not communicated any concerns to city staff.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

There are no budgetary or financial implications as the result of the recommendations of this report at this time.

## **Conclusion**

The PACAC has recommended to Council the designation of 1290 Hilliard Street – The Stothart Farmhouse as a property of cultural heritage value or interest. This report advises Council of the PACAC's recommendation and seeks a Council decision regarding that recommendation.

## **Attachments**

Appendix A: Heritage Designation Brief – 1290 Hilliard Street

Submitted by,

Blair Nelson, P. Eng.  
Commissioner, Infrastructure, Planning and Growth Management

### **Contact Name:**

Brad Appleby, RPP, MCIP  
Director, Planning, Development and Urban Design  
Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 1886  
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755  
Email: [bappleby@peterborough.ca](mailto:bappleby@peterborough.ca)

Colin Walsh  
Heritage Programs Coordinator  
Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 1488  
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755  
Email: [cwalsh@peterborough.ca](mailto:cwalsh@peterborough.ca)