



OAKVILLE

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE

BY-LAW NUMBER 2024-152

A by-law to designate The Woodlands at 1242 Bronte Road as a property of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 29, Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, chapter O.18, the council of a municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

WHEREAS the property described in Schedule A to this By-law (“the Property”) contains the cultural heritage resource known as The Woodlands;

WHEREAS the council of the Corporation of the Town of Oakville, by resolution passed on August 12, 2024, has caused to be served on the owner of the lands and premises at 1242 Bronte Road, Oakville, ON and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate The Woodlands at 1242 Bronte Road as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, and further, has caused the notice of intention to be published on the town’s website in accordance with the town’s *Ontario Heritage Act* Alternative Notice Policy;

WHEREAS no objection to the proposed designation was served on the municipality by September 13, 2024, being the last date for filing an objection;

AND WHEREAS the Town Council has described the Property, set out the statement of cultural heritage value or interest for the Property, and described the heritage attributes of the Property in Schedule “B” to this By-law, which forms part of this By-law;

COUNCIL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the real property legally described in Schedule “A” to this By-law, is hereby designated to be of cultural heritage value or interest under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
2. That the attached Schedules form part of the By-law.
3. And that the Town Solicitor be authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule “A” at the Land Registry Office.

PASSED this 15th day of October, 2024

MAYOR

CLERK

SCHEDULE "A" TO
BY-LAW 2024-152

In the Town of Oakville in the Regional Municipality of Halton, property description as follows:

The Woodlands
1242 Bronte Road
PART LOT 31, CON 2 TRAFALGAR SOUTH DUNDAS STREET, PART 1
20R15001; TOWN OF OAKVILLE
PIN: 24926-0412

SCHEDULE "B" TO
BY-LAW 2024-152

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

Description of Property

The property at 1242 Bronte Road is located on the west side of Bronte Road, between Upper Middle Road West and the Queen Elizabeth Highway. The property contains a two-and-half-storey stone and stucco-clad house known as The Woodlands.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Design and Physical Value

The Woodlands has design and physical value as a representative and evolved example of a circa 1860s-1870s Gothic Revival style farmhouse with unique elements adapted to the style around 1905 after a fire. The house includes many historic elements, including its: large, tall two-and-a-half storey massing and form with prominent gables; wooden soffit and boxed frieze with decorative bargeboards and brackets; stone construction with stucco cladding; front entrance, including recessed columns beside the front door and large transom window; wraparound porch with wooden columns, ceiling, brackets, beams and second-storey porch and railings; and fenestration on the south, north, and east elevations, including the drip edges and wooden sills and frames. The property also contains a remnant stone chimney and fireplace from a former building, as well as an almost century-old Norway Spruce tree planted by the Atkins.

Historical and Associative Value

The Woodlands has cultural heritage value for its direct associations with two important families of the area, specifically the White, Campbell and Atkins families. The house has historical significance to the Bronte area and Trafalgar Township at large. James White was a notable figure in local history as an MPP for Halton, lumber merchant, sawmill owner, gentleman farmer, livestock breeder, and the winner of the first Queen's Plate. Paul Campbell, the son-in-law of James White, was well-known in Toronto and in Canada as a dry goods businessman, and his work at The Woodlands made the orchard famous on a national level. The property is also associated with George Stuart Atkins, a respected farmer, broadcaster, and the creator of Farm Radio International who was recognized both locally and nationally. He also farmed the original property, helped to create the Bronte Creek Provincial Park and worked to protect The Woodlands, notably the Bronte White Oak Tree that remains today.

The Woodlands has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture; the area has many Indigenous archaeological sites given its proximity to Bronte Creek, and no extensive investigative work has been done on the subject property. Future archaeological investigations could provide significant material and evidence for both Indigenous and settler history.

Contextual Value

The Woodlands has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings. The house and property are linked to over 150 years of farming history on the historic lot. The house is located in a significant natural setting, defined by Bronte Creek to the west, the adjacent woodlot, the Bronte White Oak Tree across the road and the larger protected natural area to the west of Bronte Road. The Bronte White Oak Tree, a designated heritage tree, was historically on the White family property and was preserved by the White and Atkins families. The presence of the house and its related history helps give context to the natural area and this significant tree.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key heritage attributes of The Woodlands at 1242 Bronte Road that exemplify its cultural heritage value as an evolved example of a Gothic Revival farmhouse, as they relate to the historic two-and-a-half storey house, include:

- Large and tall massing and form of the two-and-a-half-storey building with hipped roof and three gables;
- Stone construction with stucco cladding;
- Wooden soffit and boxed wooden frieze with decorative wooden bargeboard and wooden brackets;
- Wraparound front porch with round wooden columns, wooden frieze with brackets and the presence of low-profile second storey wooden railings;
- Front entrance, including recessed round wooden columns beside the front door and large transom window;
- Fenestration of the circa 1905 windows on the south, north, and east elevations;
- One-over-one historic wooden sash windows with louvered wooden shutters, trim and drip moulds; and
- Its presence on raised ground.

Key heritage attributes of The Woodlands at 1242 Bronte Road that exemplify its cultural heritage value as part of a historic farmstead, as they relate to the grounds, include:

- Stone chimney and fireplace remnants from the farmhand house built by George Chew Atkins in the 1920s; and
- Large spruce tree planted by the Atkins family in the 1930s and associated historical plaque.