



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE**

**BY-LAW NUMBER 2024-182**

**A by-law to designate Georgia Cottage at 19 Head Street 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 Georgia Cottage;

**WHEREAS** the council of the Corporation of the Town of Oakville, by resolution passed on September 24, 2024, has caused to be served on the owner of the lands and premises at 19 Head Street, Oakville, ON and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate Georgia Cottage 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 October 28, 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024

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MAYOR

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CLERK

SCHEDULE "A" TO  
BY-LAW 2024-182

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

Georgia Cottage  
19 Head Street  
Part Lot 2, Block 97, Plan 1, as in 492068; Oakville

SCHEDULE "B" TO  
BY-LAW 2024-182

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

Description of Property

The property at 19 Head Street is located on the north side of Head Street, between Bond Street and Rebecca Street. The property contains a circa 1855 one-and-a-half storey frame house known as Georgia Cottage.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

*Design and Physical Value*

Georgia Cottage has design and physical value as a representative example of a vernacular Oakville frame house with general Georgian and Neoclassical architectural influences. The home was built circa 1855 with characteristics influenced by Georgian elements of the home include its symmetrical façade and fenestration, as well as the simple rectangular massing and frame construction with stucco cladding. The Neoclassical elements still present are the transom window above the door, the wooden sash windows 2/2 panes, and wooden window pediment lintels. A unique element is the Gothic Revival-style bargeboard.

*Historical and Associative Value*

Georgia Cottage has historical value as it has direct associations with the Thomas family, who were important in the development of the Town of Oakville, including Merrick Thomas' wife, Esther, who was the first long-time owner of the house, and her son, Robert Murray Thomas, who was a respected member of the community and did important work as a deaf teacher in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The house is over 150 years old, and the Thomas family and descendants owned it for 109 years. The property is also associated with George Atkins, a farmer who played a key role in the early development of the Ontario Junior Farmers Association and the Halton Region Conservation Authority. He was a radio and television broadcaster and started Farm Radio International, a radio broadcasting company for developing countries. He earned many awards, received an honorary degree from the University of Guelph and was named a Member of the Order of Canada.

*Contextual Value*

Georgia Cottage is important in defining, supporting, and maintaining the character of the area, a historic residential neighbourhood that developed in the mid- to late-1800s to support the local industries along the harbour and lakefront. It is one of the oldest houses in the neighbourhood and its presence adds to the historical character of the area. It sits on a corner lot, making it a prominent structure in the neighbourhood. The

property is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings and its presence is a reminder of the residential and working-class history of the neighbourhood.

#### Description of Heritage Attributes

Key attributes of the property at 19 Head Street that exemplify its cultural heritage value as a vernacular house frame house with general Georgian and Neoclassical influences, as they relate to the west, south and east elevations of the original one-and-a-half storey portion, include:

- The form and massing of the rectangular one-and-a-half storey structure with side gable roof;
- Stucco cladding;
- Fenestration of the windows and front entrance;
- Wooden front door with vertical panels and window, with wooden transom window above;
- The presence of 2/2 wooden windows with wooden trim and wooden pediment lintels; and
- Wooden Gothic Revival-style bargeboard on east and west gables.