



## Municipal Heritage Committee Report

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**Report Number:** KLMHC2024-043  
**Meeting Date:** July 4, 2024  
**Title:** **Alteration Application – 1474 Highway 7A,  
Geographic Township of Manvers**  
**Description:** Proposed alteration to 1474 Highway 7A (Bethany Library)  
which is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage  
Act  
**Author and Title:** Emily Turner, Economic Development Officer – Heritage  
Planning

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### Recommendations:

**That** Report KLMHC2024-043, **Alteration Application – 1474 Highway 7A,  
Geographic Township of Manvers**, be received; and

**That** that the proposed alteration be approved.

**Department Head:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial/Legal/HR/Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Administrative Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Background:**

Under the City of Kawartha Lakes' delegated authority by-law for the alteration of designated heritage properties (By-law 2019-154), approvals for minor alterations to properties designated individually under Part IV of the Act are delegated to staff in consultation with the Kawartha Lakes Municipal Heritage Committee. Minor alterations are defined in the by-law and include changes to the property including, but not limited to, the replacement of exterior elements, additions, the construction of accessory structures, hard landscaping, and the installation of utilities.

1474 Highway 7A is designated individually under the Ontario Heritage Act by By-law 2023-074. The by-law is attached to this report as Appendix A. The property contains the former Manvers Township Hall which was constructed in 1912 as a replacement for an older municipal building destroyed in a fire that consumed much of downtown Bethany. The building was designed by noted Peterborough architecture W.R.L. Blackwell and is a representative example of a small Romanesque Revival municipal building from the early twentieth century. The property also contains the Bethany Cenotaph. The property currently houses the Bethany branch of the Kawartha Lakes Public Library and is owned by the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Building and property staff are proposing the replacement of the stairs and ramp on the front elevation of the building, facing Highway 7. Neither of these features are original to the building. At present, both the stairs and ramp are rapidly deteriorating and beginning to pose safety risks for the public visiting the library. The ramp is not code compliant and is challenging for people with physical disabilities to use. The stairs and ramp will be replaced with a new concrete surface and visible faced will be finished with a brick masonry veneer to match the existing building. The railings and guards will also be replaced with black aluminium with glazing. The new design will meet the current Ontario Building Code and the Facility Accessibility Design Standards for the City.

The proposed design will be presented to the Committee by Building and Property staff to the Committee at its July 4 meeting.

## **Rationale:**

Staff are supportive of the approval of this application. As neither the existing stairs or ramp are original to the building, their removal will have limited impact on the heritage features of the property. The proposed replacement will have a similar footprint to the existing stairs and ramp and will be an upgrade to the existing structures as they will be

safe and code compliant. The cladding of the visible faced will brick to match the existing building will enhance and support the historic aesthetic of the building by matching the stairs and ramp to the historic building; the stairs and ramp are currently clad in stone which does not match the building.

**Other Alternatives Considered:**

There are no recommended alternative.

**Financial/Operation Impacts:**

There are no financial or operational impacts as a result of the recommendations of this report. The replacement of the stairs and ramp are included in the City's 2024 Capital Projects budget.

**Consultations:**

Building and Property staff

**Attachments:**

Appendix A – By-law 2023-074



Adobe Acrobat  
Document

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**Department Head:** Leah Barrie, Director of Development Services