



## Municipal Heritage Committee Report

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**Report Number:** KLMHC2025-009  
**Meeting Date:** February 6, 2025  
**Title:** **Alteration Application – 50 Victoria Avenue North, Lindsay**  
**Description:** Proposed alteration to 50 Victoria Avenue North (Lindsay Old Gaol)  
**Author and Title:** Emily Turner, Economic Development Officer – Heritage Planning

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### Recommendations:

**That** Report KLMHC2025-009, **Alteration Application – 50 Victoria Avenue North, Lindsay**, be received;

**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.

50 Victoria Avenue North is designated individually under the Ontario Heritage Act by By-law 2022-081 which is a replacement for an older by-law. The by-law is attached to this report as Appendix A. The property contains the former Lindsay Gaol which was constructed in 1863 as the county jail. The building was designed by noted Toronto architect William Storm who also designed the neighbouring Victoria County Courthouse, now City Hall, and is a representative example of a mid-nineteenth century jail in Ontario. The property currently houses the Kawartha Lakes Museum and Archives, which leases the building, and is owned by the City of Kawartha Lakes.

50 Victoria Avenue North is currently undergoing a multi-year restoration project which has been reviewed by the Committee in previous meetings. In 2025, Building and Property staff are proposing the replacement of the current ramp and stairs on the north side of the building that currently act as the primary entrance to the museum. The ramp does not comply with current accessibility standards. Staff are proposing that the ramp be redesigned to comply with accessibility standards. This will entail an expansion of the ramp which will now wrap around the front of the north addition of the property on the Colborne Street side. This addition is not original to the building and was added in the twentieth century. The placement of the ramp in this location will allow the barrier free parking on the Colborne Street side of the building to be maintained while also supplying a ramp that meets current accessibility requirements. An overall site plan of the restoration project is attached as Appendix B and a layout for the new proposed ramp location is attached as Appendix C.

The proposed design will be presented to the Committee by Building and Property staff at its February 6 meeting.

### **Rationale:**

Staff are supportive of the approval of this application. Generally, there has not been support from the Committee or Heritage Planning staff for alterations to the property which impact the Victoria Avenue North side of the property which is its main façade and the traditional front of the building. However, in this case, the impact will only be on the northern addition to the property and will not impact the visual symmetry of the original jail building and which identified as a heritage attribute in the property's designation by-law. The proposed ramp design and location both support accessibility for the building, through the ramp itself as well as the retention of the barrier free parking, and will have minimal impact on the heritage attributes of the historic building.

### **Other Alternatives Considered:**

There are no recommended alternatives.

### **Financial/Operation Impacts:**

There are no financial or operational impacts as the result of the recommendations of this report. This project has been allocated funds through the 2025 Capital Projects budget.

### **Consultations:**

Building and Property Staff.

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A – By-law 2022-081



Adobe Acrobat  
Document

Appendix B – Site Plan



Adobe Acrobat  
Document

Appendix C – New Proposed Ramp Location



Adobe Acrobat  
Document

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