



Municipal Heritage Committee Report

Report Number: KLMHC2025-035
Meeting Date: May 1, 2025
Title: **Proposed Heritage Designation of 90 Bolton Street, Village of Bobcaygeon**
Description: Proposed heritage designation of 90 Bolton Street (Orr Building) under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act
Author and Title: Emily Turner, Economic Development Officer – Heritage Planning

Recommendations:

That Report KLMHC2025-035, **Proposed Heritage Designation of 90 Bolton Street, Village of Bobcaygeon**, be received;

That the designation of the property known municipally as 90 Bolton Street be endorsed; and

That the recommendation to designate the subject property be forwarded to Council for approval.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

The City of Kawartha Lakes designates properties under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act. Properties are recommended for designations by their owners, members of the public, local organizations, the Municipal Heritage Committee, Council or staff. Properties proposed for designated are reviewed by the Municipal Heritage Committee, as required by subsection 29(2) of the Ontario Heritage Act, and their recommendation is brought forward to Council under the cover of a staff report.

90 Bolton Street, also known as the Orr Building, has cultural heritage value as the former Orr Temperance Hotel and the current site of the Masonic Lodge. The property is currently listed on the City's Heritage Register. Although there was initially no intention by staff to designate this building under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act made through Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act (2022), now require municipalities to designate listed properties or remove them from the Register within two years of the amendments coming into effect. Practically, this means that, in order for municipalities to provide heritage protection to their cultural heritage resources as is required by provincial land use planning policy, they must be designated under Part IV of the Act. The amendments came into effect on January 1, 2023. Recent amendments to the Act have extended the deadline to designate properties by an additional two years to January 1, 2027.

90 Bolton Street has been prioritized as a landmark historic commercial building in downtown Bobcaygeon. It has a high degree of architectural value as a unique example of a late nineteenth century small-town commercial building and through its historic value as both the Orr Temperance Hotel and the Kenosha Inn. It is an important building block in the historic landscape of downtown Bobcaygeon. This property was identified by staff and the Municipal Heritage Committee as a priority property. Staff have undertaken a site visit to and a heritage evaluation report about the property and have determined that the property is eligible for designation under Part IV of the Act.

This report provided the background information regarding the cultural heritage value of the property for the Municipal Heritage Committee's review.

Rationale:

90 Bolton Street has cultural heritage value as a historic hotel in Bobcaygeon and as a unique example of a late nineteenth century commercial building. Constructed in 1871, the building eschews the Italianate commercial style popular at this time in favour of a

simpler style that combines both Georgian and Victorian elements. It is one of a small collection of purpose-built historic stone commercial buildings in Kawartha Lakes. The property has historical value as the former Orr Temperance Hotel which was established as a dry hotel by local businessman Alexander Orr and speaks to the importance of the temperance movement in late nineteenth century society, as well as the role of hotels in Bobcaygeon in this period, both under Orr and later as the Kenosha Inn. It became the Masonic Lodge in 1940 and continues to serve that purpose. The property is a landmark downtown commercial building in downtown Bobcaygeon and supports the historic commercial character of Bolton Street.

A heritage evaluation report outlining the full reasons for designation and the property's heritage attributes is attached to this report as Appendix A.

Other Alternatives Considered:

There are no recommended alternatives.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial or operational impacts as a result of the recommendations of this report.

Consultations:

N/A

Attachments:

Appendix A – Heritage Evaluation Report: 90 Bolton Street



Adobe Acrobat
Document

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Department Head: Leah Barrie, Director of Development Services