

# Heritage Vaughan Committee Report

---

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 27, 2024

**WARD:** 1

**TITLE:** DELISTING OF 8274 ISLINGTON AVENUE, A PROPERTY INCLUDED ON THE VAUGHAN HERITAGE INVENTORY AS A LISTED STRUCTURE OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE ('LSHS')

**FROM:**

Haiqing Xu, Deputy City Manager, Planning and Growth Management

**ACTION:** DECISION

---

**Purpose**

To seek Heritage Vaughan Committee's support and recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval for the proposed removal of the subject property at 8274 Islington Avenue (shown in Attachment 1) from the Municipal Registrar as a *Listed Structure of Historical Significance* under Part IV Section 27 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**Report Highlights**

- Cultural Heritage staff are requesting the subject property be removed from the Register of Cultural Properties of Historical Value.
- The property previously contained a 2-storey house that was altered repeatedly and irreversibly.
- Based on independent professional recommendation, this structure no longer has cultural heritage value but commemoration and reuse of certain elements are recommended.

**Recommendations**

1. THAT Heritage Vaughan recommend the approval of the proposed removal of the subject property from City of Vaughan Heritage Inventory as a Listed Structure of Historical Significance, under Section 27(1.3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

2. THAT a quantity of the original bricks from the Church be retained and re-used as low landscaping walls within the new development and a commemorative plaque be installed to the satisfaction of the City's Cultural Heritage Staff.
3. THAT the original door and transom be salvaged, retained, and reused by the congregation at the site of the proposed new church off-site.

## **Background**

The original Pine Grove church was built on an adjacent parcel in 1841, but by 1861 the congregation started looking towards a new and substantially larger building. That building, built on this property, was erected in 1866 – and a fire in 1902 destroyed the building but the door and the pulpit were salvaged. By 1903, the church was reconstructed using the majority of the salvaged and cleaned bricks. This 3<sup>rd</sup> iteration served as community church for a few religious groups until 2019 when the lands were sold to the current owners.

## **Previous Reports/Authority**

There are no previous reports.

## **Analysis and Options**

The subject property consists of 2 buildings: the old church built in 1903 and a newer sanctuary built in 2005. Two constructions of different eras connect these two buildings. The church building is a modest, simple version of a gothic revival church, with a rectangular plan, steep roof, and small entry vestibule. The building is brick, with a fieldstone foundation. The side elevations have three masonry openings that have been filled with frame construction, and replacement rectangular windows installed in the lower openings. Of particular interest is the re-use of the doorway and some of the bricks from the 1867 building. The only decorative elements on the building are dressed stone sills at the windows and dressed stone blocks at the pilaster steps on both the church and the vestibule.

The owner proposes to retain the entry of the 1903 Church – doors, frame, and transom – and use it within the development as an entry feature for the common interior amenity space, and to retain a quantity of the bricks from the Church for re-use as low landscaping walls. Details as to locations of these commemorative installations will be determined by discussions with Cultural Heritage Staff as part of the project design.

## **Financial Impact**

There are no requirements for new funding associated with this report.

## **Operational Impact**

There are no operational impacts or considerations.

## **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

There are no broader Regional impacts or considerations.

## **Conclusion**

The built heritage resource at 8274 Islington Avenue does not possess the degree of heritage value or interest to merit preservation, but commemoration is recommended and is part of the proposed redevelopment of the site.

Cultural Heritage staff support the Heritage Vaughan Committee recommendation to Committee of the Whole that the subject property be removed from the LSHS register, as it no longer maintains the criteria for the Listing as a property of architectural, cultural heritage, or contextual significance.

**For more information**, please contact: Nick R. Borcescu, Senior Heritage Planner, ext. 8191.

## **Attachments**

Attachment 1 – 8274Islington\_Location Map

Attachment 2 – 8274Islington\_Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

Attachment 3 – 8274Islington\_Request to delist

Attachment 4 - 8274Islington\_CHIA addendum

## **Prepared by**

Nick R. Borcescu, Senior Heritage Planner, ext. 8191

Shahrazad Davoudi-Strike, Manager Urban Design and Cultural Services, ext. 8653

Nancy Tuckett, Director of Development Planning, ext. 8529