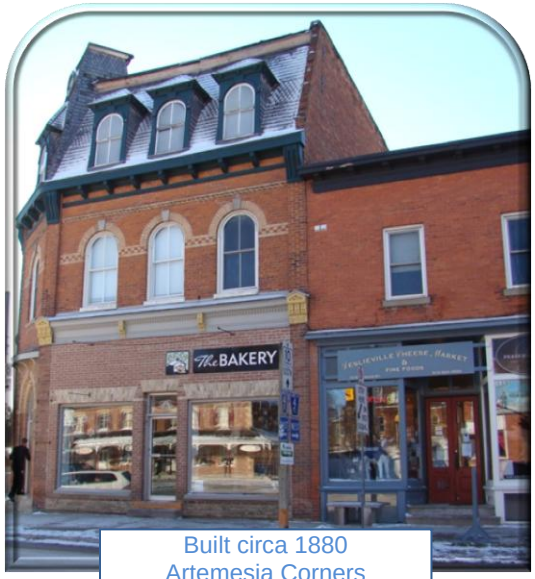
Why Conserve Our Heritage?



Built circa 1880
Artemesia Corners
(now Village of Flesherton)

Restored Heritage Properties are the centerpiece of a revitalized community

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Restoration using locally sourced labour & materials keeps jobs and money in the community

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Heritage Towns become a destination of choice for discerning tourists

Create Landmarks NOT Landfill

The Ontario Heritage Act (1975)

Legislation to conserve Ontario's cultural heritage by enabling municipalities to identify & protect properties of cultural heritage value, create incentive programs & establish municipal heritage committees.
More information on municipal register:
Ontario Heritage Toolkit (available online)
For designated historic sites:
www.historicplaces.ca

HERITAGE Grey Highlands

Committee of Council formed 2005:

- To research & submit heritage properties to list on municipal register
- To advise Council on heritage matters e.g. permit requests for listed or designated properties
- To assist owners re maintenance, restoration & funding options
- To promote heritage events

CONTACT US:

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HERITAGE
HGH
GREY HIGHLANDS

Preserving Our Past Building Our Future

Information for Property Owners RE

Ontario Heritage Act & Municipal Register of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

DEFINITIONS:

- **Cultural Heritage:** the aesthetic, historical, scientific, social, cultural, emotional and spiritual values embodied within built-forms, spaces & landscapes that we construct, share or inhabit; and in the archaeological record of what we've left behind
- **Conservation:** the care and maintenance of existing heritage property elements to ensure they remain sound & intact, and also retain an original character or appearance
- **Restoration:** removing undesirable additions and/or replicating lost or damaged building elements in a manner that maintains or enhances the earlier character of a building
- **Renovation:** removing original or period elements, materials, finishes and details in order to "modernize"

PRESERVATION TIPS:

- If possible, repair instead of replace.
- Where replacement is necessary, do so sparingly & with appropriate material
- Retain historic character and value of building with original baseboards, plaster ceiling medallions & cornices, door & window mouldings, staircases, period light fixtures, mantelpieces, stained glass windows, etc.
- Over-zealous cleaning with harsh products or methods can destroy the authentic character and/or patina

if PROPERTY is *LISTED*
under the *Ontario Heritage Act*

- No restrictions or covenants are registered on title of your property
- Listing does not affect use of property as defined in zoning bylaws
- You apply for appropriate building permits like any other property owner
- No additional obligations are placed upon you before proceeding with renovations or additions to existing buildings or structures on your property

HOWEVER:

- **If you plan to demolish a building or structure on your property, you are required to give 60 days advance notice to the Council of Grey Highlands.** Within that time period, Council, following consultation with the Heritage Committee, decides whether to begin the designation process under the Ontario Heritage Act to give long term protection to the property (or else to permit demolition)
- **Note:** In reaching a decision**,** Council & the Heritage Committee do not just consider historic and heritage factors, but also condition of building, ease of restoration, financial factors, etc.

VALUE of the REGISTER

- Provides easily accessible information about cultural heritage properties for property owners, land-use planners, developers, the tourism industry, educators and the general public

Hickling House – built 1872 – designated at request of owner

if PROPERTY is *DESIGNATED*
under the *Ontario Heritage Act*

- Designation is registered on title
- Building permit applications for addition or renovation are reviewed by Grey Highlands Council & Heritage Committee to ensure suitability
- Council & Heritage Committee work with owner so design & materials compliment heritage characteristics
- Although not obligated under the Act, owners usually **choose** to maintain designated properties in good repair using appropriate colors and materials
- Many owners request designation in order to preserve their efforts for use and enjoyment of future generations
- Designation also may provide access to grants, loans or tax relief to assist property owners with conservation and/or maintenance of the property