Niagara Lake HERITAGE PLANNING



The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is proud to celebrate and preserve its rich cultural heritage, which is important in defining the community's identity. The Town has a Heritage Permit system in place to conserve this heritage. This system ensures that any proposed alterations to designated heritage properties conserve and enhance the cultural heritage value of these significant sites.



Did you know?

The Town's municipal heritage register includes 426 properties, consisting of:

- 84 Part IV designated properties (individually designated under the Ontario Heritage Act).
- 152 Part V designated properties (located within the Heritage Conservation District).
- 7 dual Part IV and Part V designated properties.
- 183 listed properties that are recognized for their heritage value but not formally designated.

In 2023, the Town launched its Priority Heritage Designation program with 42 listed properties identified as priorities for designation. These properties were selected because they represent significant pieces of Niagara-on-the-Lake's history or identity. The priority properties were identified as those which, if lost due to demolition, neglect, or inappropriate alteration, would result in the substantial loss of a piece of Niagara-on-the-Lake history or identity. Progress continues on evaluating and designating properties on the priority lists.



Interested in designating your property?

Designation under the Ontario Heritage Act ensures the continued conservation of the Town's built cultural heritage, a fragile and non-renewable resource.

Requests for designation are reviewed by Heritage Staff and the Municipal Heritage Committee and approved by Council. Staff and the Committee collect as much historical information and documentation on the property as possible and perform a site visit to determine and document features that contribute to its cultural heritage value.

If you are interested in designating your property under the Ontario Heritage Act, please email heritage@notl.com.

Interested in designating your property or learning more about heritage homes and planning in Niagara-on-the-Lake? Scan the QR code or visit www.notl.com/heritage-planning.





Queen-Picton (Old Town) Heritage Conservation District Study

This initiative, in alignment with Council's Strategic Plan, is dedicated to preserving the unique charm and historical significance of Old Town through detailed research, public engagement, and expert guidance. From local historians to passionate volunteers, this project is powered by those who care deeply about Niagara-on-the-Lake's rich history.

By documenting the Town's historical assets, Council and Staff are working to ensure future generations can appreciate the beauty and history of the Town's iconic streetscapes.



The Study is currently in phase one, and will involve opportunities for public engagement. Council has adopted a Study Area By-law identifying an area of Old Town to be evaluated for potential expansion of the heritage conservation district currently bounded by Prideaux, Wellington, Johnson and Gate Streets surrounding the commercial core of Old Town. This By-law places a temporary one-year restriction (from February 25, 2025) on development within the study area during the time the study is underway.

To learn more about the Heritage Conservation District Study, scan the QR code or visit www.notl.com/heritage-planning/queen-pictonheritage-conservation-district-study.

