

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT,  
R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18  
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS  
**34, 36, 38 Mill Street**  
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS,  
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

TO: Ontario Heritage Trust  
The Ontario Heritage Centre  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3  
[registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca](mailto:registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca)  
Attention: Provincial Heritage Registrar

**Notice of intention to designate: 34, 36, 38 Mill Street**

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills intends to designate **34, 36, 38 Mill Street** as properties of cultural heritage value or interest under section 29, Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

**Description of the property**

The legal description of the subject properties are PLAN 6262 PT LOT 9 FARM PT; LOT 26 and PLAN 6262 PT LOTS 9 26 AND; 34 RP 26R1641 PART 2 and PLAN 6262 RP 26R1641 PART 3; BEING PT LOTS B AND C

**Statement of cultural heritage value or interest**

The subject properties are worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* because they meet **five** of the nine prescribed criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest, according to Ontario Regulation 9/06 as amended by Ontario Regulation 569/22. The heritage attributes of **34, 36, 38 Mill Street** display: design/physical, historical/associative, and contextual value.

The subject properties meet **Criteria 1** because they are a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method. The Black Watch Building has design value as a representative example of a late 19<sup>th</sup>, early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial main street building. Features of this building type include two

to four storey, flat-roofed massing, cornice or decorative brickwork at roofline. Large glass display windows had recessed doorways, secondary cornices separating the first and second storey, often located on the front lot line, and directly adjacent to neighbouring structures or separated by a small gap.

The subject properties meet **Criteria 5** because they yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture. The Black Watch Building has historical and associative value as an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century main-street building that reflects Almonte's transformation from a small grist-mill community in 1819 to an industrial hub with a thriving main street by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The street developed early in the town's history along the banks of the river and does not form part of Almonte's original grid. Its unique route is a distinctive feature of the town and reflects its origins as a track connecting the mills. From the 19<sup>th</sup> century until the present, Mill Street has played a vital commercial role in the history of the community. Its north side along the water was the site of many of the town's mills and the many townspeople worked there, while the south side included stores, hotels, a bank, and the Mason's Hall. The town's first telephone exchange was also located on Mill Street. Farther east, the post office, a centre of town life, occupied a prominent lot. The Black Watch Building has historical and associative value as its connection to Almonte's public life reflects Mill Street's long-standing role at the heart of the community. Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, main streets like this have shaped small-town life, hosting parades, public celebrations, and everyday village activity. Mill Street remains a central gathering place for social, commercial, and recreational life in Almonte. It is also a popular tourist destination and has appeared in many films.

The subject properties meet **Criteria 7** because they are important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area. The Black Watch Building has contextual value as part of Mill Street, Almonte's historic main street. The entire length of the street is included in the "Downtown Almonte Heritage Conservation District Plan", designated under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act* in 2015.

The subject properties meet **Criteria 8** because they have contextual value because they are physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings. The property has contextual value as one of many structures that line Mill Street that together form Almonte's historic main street. These buildings share a retail use, are similar in form, massing and design and an historic location.

The subject properties meet **Criteria 9** because they are a landmark. The Black Watch Building is a landmark because of the distinctive Black Watch advertisement painted on its west façade. Commercial wall signs were a common feature in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century cities and towns, but few remain, which contributes to the feature's status as a landmark.

## Description of Heritage Attributes

The following key exterior elements contribute to the heritage value of the Black Watch Building, 34, 36, 38 Mill Street, Almonte, as a good example of early 20th century commercial main street architecture, and should be considered as heritage attributes in a designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, and include:

- Two storey massing with flat roof;
- Three bay front façade, with each bay occupied by a different business;
- Simple brick pilasters dividing the upper storey into three and marking the corners;
- Red brick exterior cladding, laid in common bond;
- Remaining elements of the original storefronts in evidence at 36 Mill Street;
- Scalloped metal secondary cornice with brackets and semi-circular rosettes separating first and second storeys;
- Decorative brick coursing at the roof line;
- Painted “Black Watch Chewing Tobacco” sign, with SHAMROCK ghost sign evident underneath;
- Location on a bend in Mill Street, on the front property lot line.

## Attributes Not Included in this Designation

The interior of the buildings are not included in this designation.

It is intended that non-original features may be returned to the documented earlier designs or to their documented original state without requiring Council to amend the heritage designation by-law.

A more detailed description of the property’s cultural heritage value can be found in the staff report to the Heritage Advisory Committee dated **June 3, 2026**, which can be viewed at [calendar.mississippimills.ca/council](http://calendar.mississippimills.ca/council) by selecting the date of the meeting.

## Notice of Objection

Any person may send a notice of objection to this proposed designation, within 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention, before 4 p.m. on **Saturday, July 25, 2026**. This notice must be sent by registered mail or delivered to the Clerk of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills and must set out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. If a notice of objection is received, the Council of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills shall consider the objection and make a decision whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property within 90 days after the end of the 30-day objection period. If Council decides not to withdraw its intention to designate, a heritage designation by-law must be passed within 120 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention to designate. Council must publish a Notice of

Passing of the designation by-law which is followed by a 30-day appeal period when appeals of the by-law may be given to the Ontario Land Tribunal for a hearing and decision.

**Jeanne Harfield** (She/Her)

Clerk & Deputy CAO

Office of the Clerk

Municipality of Mississippi Mills

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For more information contact:

**Melanie Knight** (she/her)

Director of Development Services and Engineering

Municipality of Mississippi Mills

Phone: 613-256-2064

Email: [mknight@mississippimills.ca](mailto:mknight@mississippimills.ca)

Notice dated: June 25, 2026