

## **Appendix A: Draft Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest for 5780 Cedar Springs Road, City of Burlington**

### *Introduction and Property Description*

5780 Cedar Springs Road, known as the Foster-Coverdale Farm, is a rural farmstead composed of a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century vernacular farmhouse, numerous sheds, barns and outbuildings, fenced paddocks and an agricultural field. The 40-acre property is located at the southeast corner of Britannia Road and Cedar Springs Road in the City of Burlington (former Nelson Township), Halton Region.

### *Historical or Associative Value*

5780 Cedar Springs Road has direct associations with two families significant to the community, the Fosters and the Coverdales. The property was initially purchased by the British Government from the Mississaugas in the late 1700s. The Fosters were the first family to settle on the land after emigrating from Ireland in 1832. Henry and Jane Foster and their six children farmed and lived on the property that Henry's mother and brother had first purchased. Henry likely constructed the house on the property himself in 1867. Throughout his time in Nelson Township, Henry had been an active member of the local political and justice systems. He served on the Halton County Council for 18 years – 12 years as Deputy Reeve and four as Reeve. He also served several years as a Justice of the Peace for the Township and was a Director of the Halton County Agricultural Society. The land remained in the Foster family for over 90 years until it was purchased by George Emerson Coverdale in 1925. Like the Fosters, the Coverdales were early settlers to Nelson Township owning many farms in the area. By 1932, property ownership was transferred to George's grandson, George Robert Coverdale. George was a pioneer of the Quarter Horse industry in Ontario, founding the Quarterama horse show – Canada's largest annual horse show at the time. He helped to found the Ontario Quarter Horse Association in the early 1960s. The property has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture as Coverdale Farms became the first Quarter Horse breeding facility in Ontario. The Coverdales lived and farmed the property for close to 90 years.

### *Contextual Value*

The Foster-Coverdale Farm is located in a scenic, rolling portion of the Niagara Escarpment Green Belt. The rural property is important in establishing the dominant character of the area, reflective of Halton Region's agricultural past. The landscape is composed of a vernacular mid-19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse, numerous barns and outbuildings, fenced paddocks and an agricultural field. The placement of the farmhouse forms a strong focal point at the terminus of the tree-lined driveway when viewed from Cedar Creek Road. Located on a rise of land, the property and its open paddocks can be clearly seen from the intersection of Britannia Road and Cedar Creek Road, providing panoramic views to the rural agricultural landscape.

A number of cultural heritage resources associated with 5780 Cedar Springs Road are located in close proximity to the property, historically linking the Foster-Coverdale Farm to its surroundings. The Bethel Chapel and cemetery, established in 1853, was built on half an acre of land donated and severed from 5780 Cedar Springs Road. A number of pioneer families are buried in the cemetery including the Fosters and Coverdales. The one-storey chapel building is clad in wood shiplap painted white, similar to the original appearance of the Foster-Coverdale farmhouse. The Dakota Schoolhouse S.S. #10, built in 1862 to replace a log structure, is located adjacent to the subject property. The land for the school was donated by Henry Foster, the former owner of 5780 Cedar Springs Road. The Dakota Schoolhouse is associated with early education in Nelson

Township. Lastly, the Flynn-Raspberry House, located just east of the Foster-Coverdale Farm was once the family home of Gertrude Raspberry, who married George Emerson Coverdale, second owner of the property, and whose family lived on and farmed the land for almost 90 years. These ties demonstrate the property's importance in supporting the character of the area due to its association with the settlement, establishment of community and agricultural practices in the area.

#### *Cultural Heritage Attributes*

The heritage attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value or interest of 5780 Cedar Springs Road include, but are not limited to:

- Massing, six-over-six windows and white painted shiplap siding of the farmhouse
- Tree-lined driveway from Cedar Springs Road
- Situation of residence setback from Cedar Springs Road at the terminus of the treelined driveway
- Circulation pattern
- Fenced paddocks
- Agricultural field
- Rolling topography
- View up the tree-lined driveway to the residence from Cedar Springs Road
- Views from Britannia Road and Cedar Springs Road to the property