

# CULTURAL HERITAGE EVALUATION CRITERIA

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A SCHEME SCANNING THE  
AUTHENTICITY OF BUILDINGS OF  
INTEREST FOR LISTING

CITY OF BURLINGTON



## OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION SCHEME

- to provide a comprehensive framework for the evaluation
- to be used by Burlington Heritage Advisory Committee to assess properties of interest that can be identified as a cultural heritage resource
- The outlines of the Ontario Heritage Act criteria identify the heritage resources as *properties of cultural heritage, heritage conservation districts, and resources of archeological value*. This evaluation criteria will tackle only the ***properties of cultural heritage*** (built heritage)

BRANT ST.  
BURLINGTON ONT

Lower Brant Street, 1918,

*Keeping places – Heritage Based Urban Design Guidelines for downtown Burlington*

## BASES OF THE EVALUATION SCHEME

The evaluation criteria is developed based on Ontario Heritage Act-Regulation 9/06, the Nara Grid framework, various resources, and previous experiences. The UNESCO criteria for selection is presented as a universal reference.

### 1. UNESCO criteria for selection outline for Built Heritage [for reference]

- Masterpiece of human creative genius
- Exhibit an important interchange of human values
- Bear a unique or exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition
- Outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape
- Outstanding example of a traditional human settlement
- To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance

## 2. Ontario Heritage Act – Regulation 9/06 outline

A property may be designated under section 29 of the Act *if it meets one or more* of the following criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest:

### **Design and Physical Value**

- Is a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method,
- Displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or
- Demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.

### **Historical and Association Value**

- Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community,
- Yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture, or
- Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.

### **Contextual Value**

- Is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area,
- Is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings, or
- Is a landmark.

### 3. Federal Heritage Building Evaluation Guidelines

#### PLACES

Buildings, ensembles of buildings, and sites that are *40 years of age or older* may be considered for designation of national historic significance.

A place must be in a *condition that respects the integrity* of its design, materials, workmanship, function and/or setting to be considered for designation of national historic significance, insofar as any of these elements are essential to understand its significance.



## THE NARA DOCUMENT ON AUTHENTICITY (1994)

### PREAMBLE

1. We, the experts assembled in Nara (Japan), wish to acknowledge the generous spirit and intellectual courage of the Japanese authorities in providing a timely forum in which we could challenge conventional thinking in the conservation field, and debate ways and means of broadening our horizons to bring greater respect for cultural and heritage diversity to conservation practice.

2. We also wish to acknowledge the value of the framework for discussion provided by the World Heritage Committee's desire to apply the test of authenticity in ways which accord full respect to the social and cultural values of all societies, in examining the outstanding universal value of cultural properties proposed for the World Heritage List.

3. The Nara Document on Authenticity is conceived in the spirit of the Charter of Venice, 1964, and builds on it and extends it in response to the expanding scope of cultural heritage concerns and interests in our contemporary world.

4. In a world that is increasingly subject to the forces of globalization and homogenization, and in a world in which the search for cultural identity is sometimes pursued through aggressive nationalism and the suppression of the cultures of minorities, the essential contribution made by the consideration of authenticity in conservation practice is to clarify and illuminate the collective memory of humanity.

### CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE DIVERSITY

5. The diversity of cultures and heritage in our world is an irreplaceable source of spiritual and intellectual richness for all humankind. The protection and enhancement of cultural and heritage diversity in our world should be actively promoted as an essential aspect of human development.

6. Cultural heritage diversity exists in time and space, and demands respect for other cultures and all aspects of their belief systems. In cases where cultural values appear to be in conflict, respect for cultural diversity demands acknowledgment of the legitimacy of the cultural values of all parties.

7. All cultures and societies are rooted in the particular forms and means of tangible and intangible expression which constitute their heritage, and these should be respected.

8. It is important to underline a fundamental principle of UNESCO, to the effect that the cultural heritage of each is the cultural heritage of all. Responsibility for cultural heritage and the management of it belongs, in the first place, to the cultural community that has generated it, and subsequently to that which cares for it. However, in addition to these responsibilities, adherence to the international charters and conventions developed for conservation of cultural heritage also obliges consideration of the principles and responsibilities flowing from them. Balancing their own requirements with those of other cultural communities is, for each community, highly desirable, provided achieving this balance does not undermine their fundamental cultural values.

### VALUES AND AUTHENTICITY

9. Conservation of cultural heritage in all its forms and historical periods is rooted in the values attributed to the heritage. Our ability to understand these values depends, in part, on the degree to which information sources about these values may be understood as credible or

## 4. THE NARA DOCUMENT ON AUTHENTICITY

13. Depending on the nature of the cultural heritage, its cultural context, and its evolution through time, authenticity judgements may be linked to the worth of a great variety of sources of information. *Aspects of the sources may include form and design, materials and substance, use and function, traditions and techniques, location and setting, and spirit and feeling, and other internal and external factors. The use of these sources permits elaboration of the specific artistic, historic, social, and scientific dimensions of the cultural heritage being examined.*

Aspects of the Sources	Dimension of the Cultural Heritage				
	Artistic	Historic	Social	Scientific	Documentation
Form & Design					
Material & Substance					
Use & Function					

NARA GRID




*HERITAGE  
EVALUATION  
NARRATIVE*

Aspects of the Sources	Dimension of the Cultural Heritage				
	Artistic	Historic	Social	Scientific	Documentation
Tradition, Techniques, & workmanship					
Location & setting					
Spirit & feeling					




NARA GRID

*HERITAGE  
EVALUATION  
NARRATIVE*



	<b>Artistic</b>	<b>Historic</b>	<b>Social</b>	<b>Scientific</b>	<b>Photos</b>
<b>Form and Design</b>	<b>Mansard roof, large bay windows, and portico</b> - <b>High</b>	<b>Wood framed structure and external cladding</b> of the main space - <b>High</b>	<b>Addition of the house reflects the styles of the main house</b> and provide additional spaces - <b>Medium</b>	<b>Portico</b> provides shading and protection from environmental elements. <b>Strategic placement of windows</b> allow ample use of daylight to light the interior spaces. - <b>High</b>	 Front façade of house.
<b>Materials and Substance</b>	<b>Stone lintels</b> provide accents in the aesthetic of the brick masonry façade. - <b>High</b>	<b>Stone foundation, stone lintels, red brick,</b> and wood framing - <b>High</b>	Historic <b>wood mouldings</b> and <b>cast-iron radiators</b> provide additional cultural value on the interior of the house. - <b>High</b>	The <b>durability and repairability of the materials used in this house</b> provide examples of quality historic materials. - <b>High</b>	 Fully pitched scotch bond masonry foundation.
<b>Use and Function</b>	The <b>chimney and fireplace</b> were historically used to heat the home - <b>Medium</b>	Historically <b>used as a home and continues to be a home</b> to the owner of the house. - <b>Medium</b>	Use as a <b>daycare and bed and breakfast</b> brings together a wide variety of demographics. - <b>Medium</b>	<b>Water shedding features</b> were repaired. <b>Mortar was repointed</b> where damage was incurred. - <b>High</b>	 Interior view of brick chimney and fireplace.

## OTTAWA HOUSE EXAMPLE



	<b>Artistic</b>	<b>Historic</b>	<b>Social</b>	<b>Scientific</b>	<b>Photos</b>
<b>Tradition, techniques, and workmanship</b>	<b>Fully pitched scotch bond masonry</b> used in the foundation demonstrate the high level of craftsmanship. - <b>High</b>	<b>Historic decorated radiators</b> also demonstrate the amount of detail and workmanship. - <b>Medium</b>	<b>High quality of workmanship - High Energy conscious features</b> that make the house exemplar of respecting the environment - <b>Low</b>	Exposed wood structural frame in the basement The wood balloon framing is a traditional technique - <b>Medium</b>	 Cast-iron radiators used to heat the house.
<b>Location and setting</b>	Reflects the styles of many houses in the Glebe community, contributing to a <b>cohesive urban landscape</b> . - <b>High</b>	Style influenced by <b>architects</b> of the area <b>James and William Hopper</b> - <b>Low</b>	<b>Walkable community</b> , situated on Glebe Avenue, close to Bank street, a main street that constitutes many local stores. - <b>Medium</b>	<b>Mature deciduous trees</b> strategically placed on the site provide necessary shading during the summer to reduce solar gains within the house. - <b>High</b>	 Deciduous trees providing shade during the summer.
<b>Spirit and feeling</b>	Similar aesthetic to other houses in the neighbourhood contribute to the feeling of community. - <b>Medium</b>	The <b>good condition</b> of the historic materials <b>portray the age and significance</b> - <b>High</b>	The place provides a <b>sense of community</b> due to the <b>welcoming steps</b> . <b>Angela Keller-Herzog</b> , the owner of the house, is a <b>community leader</b> . - <b>Medium</b>	<b>Use of advanced technologies</b> (solar PVs) <b>reduce its energy use</b> . - <b>Low</b>	 Back façade of house.

## OTTAWA HOUSE EXAMPLE



*THE GEORGE  
UNSWORTH  
HOUSE*

*BURLINGTON  
EXAMPLE*


Aspects of the Sources	Dimension of the Cultural Heritage				
	Artistic	Historic	Social	Scientific	Documentation
Form & Design	Bay window on the façade has a stone window surrounded in course rough faced stone. High hipped roof has an offset gable wing.				
Material & Substance	Small rectangular windows flank the doorway	Façade features a stone crest that reads 1932 Elliptical moulded stone architrave with a stone label header			
Use & Function					

**FORM & DESIGN / ARTISTIC:**

- What are the architecture characteristics of the house?
- Features to look for: Building Material such as brick, stone, wood..etc.
- Windows shape and design
- Roof shape and design
- Special features such as corner dichromatic pillars

**MATERIAL & SUBSTANCE/ HISTORIC:**

- Does the building materials have historical significance related to shape, use, design, location?
- Is there any special historic feature such as crests or labels?


Aspects of the Sources	Dimension of the Cultural Heritage				
	Artistic	Historic	Social	Scientific	Documentation
Form & Design					
Material & Substance					
Use & Function		Used as a house. It was built for George Unsworth who operated a successful produce farm that included 3 acres of glasshouses	<i>The building, structure or landscape can be adapted to future uses with no/minimal changes to its heritage attributes. Hence can trigger an even stronger social connection.</i>		

**USE & FUNCTION / HISTORIC:**

- Does the property have an association with a significant historic social activity and/or contribution?
- Does the function and use relate to this social interaction?

**USE & FUNCTION / SOCIAL:**

- Does the property currently have an association with a significant social activity and/or contribution?
- Does the function and use relate to this social interaction?
- Does the property have potential for future uses? [house, library, museum, ...ect]

Aspects of the Sources	Dimension of the Cultural Heritage				
	Artistic	Historic	Social	Scientific	Documentation
Tradition, Techniques, & workmanship	An excellent value as an “Arts and Crafts” style house that is constructed with high quality materials	The house is designed by William Walsh. A locally significant architect who designed a number of prominent buildings in Hamilton Area		x	
Location & setting					
Spirit & feeling					

**TRADITION,TECHNIQUE, & WORKMANSHIP/ ARTISTIC:**

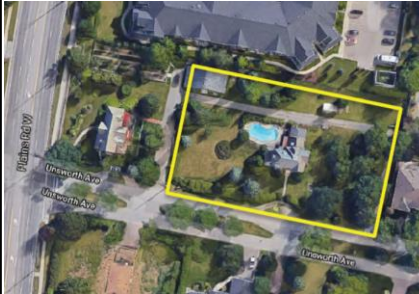
- Does the building demonstrate a high degree of workmanship and/or art?

**TRADITION,TECHNIQUE, & WORKMANSHIP/ HISTORIC:**

- Reflects ideas, artists, architect or theorist who is significant to a community?

**TRADITION,TECHNIQUE, & WORKMANSHIP/ SCIENTIFIC:**

- Does the building demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

Aspects of the Sources	Dimension of the Cultural Heritage				
	Artistic	Historic	Social	Scientific	Documentation
Tradition, Techniques, & workmanship					
Location & setting			The striking architecture makes the building a landmark on Unsworth Avenue. Which consequently affects the community sense of orientation		
Spirit & feeling					

**LOCATION & SETTING/ SOCIAL:**

- Is the building location considered a landmark?
- Does the location adjacent/contributes to social activities?

Aspects of the Sources	Dimension of the Cultural Heritage				
	Artistic	Historic	Social	Scientific	Documentation
Tradition, Techniques, & workmanship					
Location & setting					
Spirit & feeling		The house has historic and local significance associated with the owner's company 'Unsworth & Sons' role in the community.	The house contributes to the community with a sense of orientation and belonging due to the history and the family's contribution to the community.		

**SPIRIT & FEEL / HISTORIC:**

- Does the building have a historic significance that contributes to the local community feel?
- Does the building have historic elements that reflect sense/spirit/feel of authenticity?

**SPIRIT & FEEL / SOCIAL:**

- Does the building have a social connection to the community?
- Does the building represent a sense of belonging and/or orientation?



Thank You

Q & A