

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE
PROPERTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT**

R.S.O. 1990 (Ch.O.18, Sec. 29)

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Centre Wellington intends to designate the property municipally known as 6275 Wellington Road 26, in the Township of Centre Wellington (Township of West Garafraxa), as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, (Ch.O.18, Sec. 29).

Description of Historic Place: The subject property is located at 6275 Wellington Road 26 and is a rural residential property located within what was historically known as the Township of West Garafraxa on Concession 8, part of Lot 3, now in the Township of Centre Wellington. The property contains a historic stone dwelling, built between 1863-1881, a detached garage, and in-ground pool. The property boasts many mature trees of various species with landscaping throughout. A long asphalt driveway leading to a circular drop-off surrounding a landscaped island provides access to the house from Wellington Road 26. The property is 1.6 acres in size and is surrounded by agricultural land. The property is shown in the image below.



Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest: The cultural heritage value of 6275 Wellington Road 26 resides in its design/physical value, its historical/associative value, and its contextual value.

Historic or Associative Value:

The property is significant because it has potential to yield information about the theme of early European settlement and contributes to the rural agricultural history of Centre Wellington.

The original stone house was built under the ownership of Robert McLelland, whose family immigrated to Canada from Ireland in 1845. Robert bought the property in 1855 and after marrying Margaret Nelson in 1863, began construction on the dwelling, completing it some time before his death in 1881. The property then passed to his son, who later sold it to his mother Margaret. The McLelland family were farmers and owned the property until 1918. In later years,

the dwelling was partially rented out to different families, while Margaret lived in the front section.

In 1918, the property was sold to John Wright who came to Canada from Ireland and Sara Wright who was originally from England. John was a farmer and he and Sara became prominent members in their community until they moved to Orangeville in 1949. The property was owned by known farming families until 1965. Jack J. Truman and his wife Mary bought the property in 1966. Jack served in the military and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He also worked as an Industrial Arts teacher at the University of Toronto before moving to West Garafraxa. The couple renovated and made several alterations to the interior and exterior of the home and sold the property in 1970. By 1975 the house was purchased by James and Alexandra (Alix) McGregor. The property is still in the family's ownership. They have lovingly cared for and maintained the property for the last 50 years.

Design or Physical Value

The dwelling at 6275 Wellington Road 26 is significant because it is a representative example of the Gothic Revival Cottage architectural style prevalent in rural Ontario at the time of construction. The style was the most common residential design in all of Ontario prior to the 1950s, particularly in rural areas. Based on available records, it is likely that the house was constructed between 1863 and 1881.

The dwelling is one-and-half-storeys, with both portions of the house built in a vernacular style, with an end-gabled roof and a central gable peak on the south-west and south-east facades. The dwelling is thought to have been built in two parts, with the rear portion possibly being the original farmhouse and the front constructed as an early addition, though all construction was completed by 1881.

The dwelling is constructed of local field stone, adorned with subtle stone quoins at the corners and tuck pointing (ribboning), demonstrating the materials that were available to early settlers. It is now overlain heavily with mortar on the exterior, however stones are more visible on the interior of the home due to renovations and restoration work. All windows on the dwelling are modern replacements except for the arched window in the centre gable of the south-west (front) façade. All window openings on the stone dwelling have stone sills and most have modest voussoirs and/or keystones. The front section originally featured paired chimneys (north-west chimney extant).

A board and batten addition was added to the north-west side of the original (rear) stone dwelling in 1992 and contains an impressive two-storey stone fireplace constructed entirely of fieldstone sourced from the property, with a large chimney visible from the exterior.

Contextual Value

The property is significant for its contextual value as it is physically, visually and historically linked to its surroundings and contributes to the local rural agricultural context of this part of the Township. The original (rear) section of the dwelling is south-east facing likely to maximize sunlight and provide oversight of the agricultural fields. Over time this parcel of land was severed from the original farmland and altered to serve as a rural residential property, though it retains its contextual connection to the bank barn (now on the adjacent property) and surrounding agricultural fields. The property is thoughtfully landscaped with many mature trees lining the driveway and property lines, with a prominent Sugar Maple tree in front of the dwelling. The use of local fieldstone further ties it to its surroundings.

Description of Heritage Attributes to be Protected

Dwelling:

- Height, scale, and massing of the one-and-a-half storey stone dwelling
- T-shaped footprint of the stone dwelling, built in two parts (original at the rear)
- Pitch and overhang of the roof, including the central gable peaks and end-gables
- Field stone construction and materials
- Stone quoins on the corners of the dwelling
- Stone voussoirs, keystones and sills of the window openings
- Fenestration pattern of window and door openings in their original locations
- Arched wood window on the front façade within the central gable peak

Property/Landscape:

- Large mature Sugar Maple in front of the dwelling

Interior Elements:

- 2 storey stone fireplace and chimney within the 1990s board and batten addition
- Fieldstone walls, where exposed, now internal to the dwelling

Excluded from Heritage Attributes to be Protected

- 1992 board and batten addition, except stone fireplace
- Interior elements other than those listed above

For further information with respect to the proposed designation please contact Deanna Maiden, Senior Development Planner at (519) 846-9691, ext. 292.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, may be served to the Clerk of the Township of Centre Wellington on or before March 26, 2026.



Dated at the Township of Centre Wellington this 24th day of February, 2026.

Kerri O'Kane Clerk
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