

## Staff Report 2021-0454

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Meeting Date: December 6, 2021

Subject: Notice of Intention to Designate – 552 The Grange Sideroad, Ward 1

Submitted By: Sally Drummond, Heritage Resource Officer, Strategic Policy Planning, Planning Department  
Cassandra Jasinski, Heritage Planner, Strategic Policy Planning, Planning Department

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### RECOMMENDATION

That a Notice of Intention to Designate the property at 552 The Grange Sideroad under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, be issued;

That staff be authorized to publish and serve the Notice of Intention to Designate the property at 552 The Grange Sideroad in accordance with the Heritage Designation Report attached as Schedule B to Staff Report 2021-0454 and as per the requirements of the Ontario Heritage Act; and

That should no objections be received during the mandatory 30-day public objection period following publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, a by-law be enacted for the purpose of designating 552 The Grange Sideroad pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act.

### REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- 552 The Grange Sideroad is listed as a non-designated property on the Town of Caledon's municipal Heritage Register and identified on the Town of Caledon's Built Heritage Resource Inventory (BHRI) of Pre-1946 Structures.
- The 51.36 acre property contains a c.1870s farmhouse and bank barn, a 20<sup>th</sup> century outbuilding, laneway, and mature trees, notably a Black Walnut.
- In the Spring of 2021, staff received a request from the owner that the property be considered for heritage designation under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- An assessment of the cultural heritage value of the property has determined that it meets all three major criteria for designation prescribed under Ontario Regulation 9/06.
- Heritage Staff recommend that Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate 552 The Grange Sideroad under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- This report serves as consultation with Heritage Caledon as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act* before Council issues notice of its intention to designate a property.

## DISCUSSION

### Background

552 The Grange Sideroad (the “Property” as outlined in Schedule A) was identified on the Town’s 2008 Built Heritage Resources Inventory of Pre-1946 Structures (Inventory ID 1059). It was subsequently listed as a non-designated property on the Town’s Heritage Register under section 27 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (the “Act”) by Council Resolution 2020-91.

The Act enables municipalities to pass by-laws to designate properties of cultural heritage value or interest. Designation of individual properties under Section 29 of the Act is a way of publicly acknowledging a property’s value to a community and ensures the conservation of important places for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. It also allows municipalities to conserve and manage properties through the Heritage Permit process enabled under Sections 33 (alterations) and 34 (demolition or removal) of the Act.

In determining whether a property is of cultural heritage value or interest, the municipality is required to consult Ontario Regulation 9/06, “Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest”, prescribed under Section 29(1)(a) of the Act. A property may be designated if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. The property has design value or physical value because it,
  - i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method,
  - ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or
  - iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
2. The property has historical value or associative value because it,
  - i. has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community,
  - ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture, or
  - iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
3. The property has contextual value because it,
  - i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area,
  - ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings, or
  - iii. is a landmark.

## **552 The Grange Sideroad – Ward 1**

The Property, located on the southwest part of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, is a 51.36-acre parcel of land that contains a c.1870s farmhouse and bank barn, a 20th century outbuilding, laneway, and mature trees, notably a Black Walnut. It is within the boundaries of the Rockside Cultural Heritage Landscape. The Property is situated halfway between the historic villages of Rockside to the south and Belfountain to the north. At the southeast corner of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon, was the historic settlement known as Greenlaw.

In the Spring of 2021, Heritage staff received a request from the owner that the Property be considered for heritage designation under Section 29 of the Act.

In response to the owner's request, the cultural heritage value of the Property was evaluated against Ontario Regulation 9/06. The resultant Heritage Designation Report, as outlined in Schedule B, determined that the Property retains design/physical, historical/associative and contextual value and merits designation.

Designating a property under section 29 of the Act requires a Notice of Intention to Designate to be served on the owner, Ontario Heritage Trust, and published in a local newspaper. The Notice of Intention to Designate 552 The Grange Sideroad for the owner and the Ontario Heritage Trust shall include the following Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest; an abbreviated version will be published in the local newspapers:

### *Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest*

The property at 552 The Grange Sideroad is 51.36 acres within the southwest half of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, Town of Caledon.

The historical or associative value of this property is found in its direct association from 1818 to at least 1891 with the Michael Baker and Aaron Teeter families. This parcel of land roots to a 200-acre free grant of land in 1818 to Michael Baker, who was the son of a United Empire Loyalist. Baker was both among the first settlers to arrive in Caledon Township and among the first settlers to be of American-German culture in the township. As a daughter of a United Empire Loyalist, in 1818 his spouse Catharine (Frank) received the abutting Lot 7 as a free grant. Typical of settler families and particularly of those with Germanic ancestry, the Bakers and their sons clustered their separate households within these shared lots. In 1869, the elderly Michael allocated the southwest 50 acres of Lot 6 to his son, Alexander Gordon Baker. At 50 acres, this was a small farm by Ontario standards of 100 to 200 acres and was likely secondary to the needs of this youngest member of the second generation of Bakers in Caledon Township. Gordon sold in 1875 to Aaron Teeter. The Teeters also were early settlers of American-German ancestry in Caledon and nearby Erin Township. The design of the c.1872-1876 bank barn on the property exhibits the Germanic influence of its owner, possibly builder, Gordon Baker or

Aaron Teeter.

Due to the loss of the historic integrity and authenticity of the dwelling, the design or physical value of this property rests with the c.1870s timber frame bank barn, the laneway, and the Black Walnut tree. The barn is a unique and representative example of a style, type, and expression of a barn suited to a small acreage farm operation in Ontario. Its gable-roofed, saltbox form is uncommon and likely an adaptation of the larger Pennsylvania-German/Swiss German bank barns with a forebay that provides an overhang. It was built c.1872-1876 by or for farmer-carpenter Alexander Gordon Baker or farmer Aaron Teeter, both of American-German ancestry. The dressed, red sandstone quoins in the otherwise basic rubblestone foundation is an example of the use of this locally available material and representative of the importance of the quarrying industry in the southwestern part of Caledon Township at that date. The evolution in the siding, framing, openings, and foundation is typical of the maintenance and repair required to keep these barns serviceable.

The long, north/south laneway between the dwelling and the road allowance, in this case The Grange Sideroad, is typical of a traditional farm lane. The Black Walnut tree in the front yard is representative of the pre 1930s period when this nut bearing species was planted on site for harvest as a winter food source.

Contextually, this property is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the rural agricultural character of this area. It is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings as a 50-acre parcel of land severed in 1869/1872 from the homestead farm of Michael Baker.

#### *Description of Heritage Attributes*

The heritage attributes of this property are the saltbox form, 50 ft. by 36 ft., timber frame bank barn, the laneway, and the Black Walnut tree in the front yard. For the reasons given in the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, the barn, laneway, and Black Walnut tree support the historical or associative, design or physical, and contextual values of this property. The principal characteristics of these attributes are as follows:

#### **Barn**

- Saltbox shape formed by a main, gable roofed section and a lean-to type extension on the south side
- 50 ft. by 36 ft. dimension
- Vertical board siding
- Square nails and vertical board siding evident under the siding of the modern lean-to on the north side
- Medium pitched gable roof
- Wood frame with mortise and tenon joinery and round logs, squared timbers, and dimensional lumber used in the framing

- Plank flooring
- Pole rafters and plank roof sheathing
- All window and door openings related to its function as a barn, including the wood lintels
- Original rubblestone walls and large base boulders
- All red sandstone, notably forming the quoins of the foundation
- Original builder's hardware (hinges, locks, etc.)
- Placement against a natural slope rising to the north

### **Laneway**

- The existence of a north/south laneway between the east side of the dwelling and The Grange Sideroad road allowance

### **Black Walnut Tree**

- The century old Black Walnut tree on the east side of the laneway to The Grange Sideroad, in the front yard of the dwelling

### **Recommendation**

Given the significance of the Property as outlined in the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, Heritage staff recommend that Council approve the Notice of Intention to Designate 552 The Grange under Section 29 of the Act.

This report serves as consultation with Heritage Caledon as required by the Act before Council issues notice of its intention to designate a property.

Should no objections be received during the mandatory 30-day public objection period following publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, Council may pass a by-law designating the Property. If objections to the Notice of Intention to Designate are received, the matter is referred back to Council for a decision on whether to proceed with designation.

Amendments to the Act proclaimed July 1, 2021, require that the designating by-law be passed within 120 days of the publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, and further that a mandatory 30-day public objection period follow public notice of the passing of the designating by-law. If objections are received to the designating by-law, the matter is referred to the Ontario Land Tribunal. Should no objections to the by-law be received, the by-law will be registered on title to the property.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

If Council proceeds with designating the Property, the Notice of Intention to Designate and the subsequent Notice of Passing of By-law will be advertised on the Town Page in local newspapers.

The advertising costs will be funded under the Corporate Communications advertising operating budget. Costs associated with the registration of the designation by-law will be funded by Legal Services' operating budget.

If a designation by-law is registered on the title of the Property, the property owner will be eligible to apply for the annual Designated Heritage Property Grant (DHPG) program, which offers matching grants of up to \$4,000 for the conservation of a property's heritage attributes.

## **COUNCIL WORK PLAN**

This report contributes to the Council Work Plan by contributing to the preservation of heritage in Caledon.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Schedule A: Location Map for 552 The Grange Sideroad, Ward 1

Schedule B: Heritage Designation Report, 552 The Grange Sideroad, Ward 1



## Heritage Map

552 The Grange Sideroad  
Pt Lot 6, Con 5 WHS CAL

## LOCATION MAP



Date: December 6, 2021.

File No.: Committee Report  
2021-0454



## HERITAGE DESIGNATION REPORT

**552 THE GRANGE SIDEROAD, TOWN OF CALEDON, ONTARIO**

*PREPARED FOR THE*  
**TOWN OF CALEDON**

**SU MURDOCH HISTORICAL CONSULTING**

*SUMURDOC@SYMPATICO.CA*

**NOVEMBER 2021**







## **SUMMARY**

The property at 552 The Grange Sideroad in the Town of Caledon (southwest part, Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township) is a 51.36-acre parcel of land that contains a c.1870s farmhouse and bank barn, a 20<sup>th</sup> century outbuilding, laneway, and mature trees, notably a Black Walnut. The conclusion of this Heritage Designation Report is that the cultural heritage value or interest of this property is sufficient for the Town of Caledon to proceed with its designation under s.29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The heritage attributes of the property are the barn, laneway, and a Black Walnut tree.

Of note is that this property is located within the boundaries of what the Town of Caledon has identified as the candidate Rockside Cultural Heritage Landscape.



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## **HERITAGE DESIGNATION REPORT 552 THE GRANGE SIDEROAD**

**PART, WEST HALF, LOT 6, CONCESSION 5, WHS, CALEDON TOWNSHIP, TOWN OF CALEDON, REGION OF PEEL**

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### **1.0 REPORT OBJECTIVE**

The property known municipally as 552 The Grange Sideroad is a 51.36-acre parcel of land within the southwest part of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, now Town of Caledon ("Town"), Region of Peel (PIN 14267-0056 LT). This Heritage Designation Report ("Report") is a cultural heritage evaluation of the property as a candidate for designation under s.29 of the Ontario Heritage Act ("OHA"). The decision on whether to proceed with designation of all or part of the property rests with the Council of the Town of Caledon.

This Report does not include the identification of any archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential. That fieldwork can only be undertaken by an archaeologist licensed under the OHA.

### **2.0 METHODOLOGY**

*OHA Regulation 9/06: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest* ("O. Reg. 9/06") sets the minimum standard for criteria to be used by municipalities when evaluating the cultural heritage value or interest of a property being considered for designation under s.29 of the OHA. One or more of the criterion in the categories of Design or Physical Value, Historical or Associative Value, and Contextual Value must be met for the property to be designated. The evaluation categories of O. Reg. 9/06 were used as the framework for the research and evaluation contained in this Report.

The findings of this Report are based, in part, on a property title search using OnLand.ca (Ontario Land Registry) which contains Abstracts of Title dating from the Crown Patent to the date the property was registered in the Land Titles system. OnLand offers minimal access to historical land instruments (documents). In addition, online historical databases were searched and information was provided by the Town and the current property owners.

The genealogical information contained in this Report is extracted from online family histories (ancestry.ca). It is evident that there are contradictions and errors in these histories. There is also confusion, notably in the Teeter family, resulting from the repetition of first names and the intermarriage between branches of the family over several generations. This Report attempts to match the names in the land records with the available genealogical information, but some errors may have occurred.



Due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, compounded by the current building renovations at Peel Region Archives, in-person archival research was not possible and Archives staff cautioned that research requests will be limited. As such, a research request to Archives staff was submitted by the heritage consultant only for land record information essential to achieving the objective of this Report.

A site visit to the property by the heritage consultant was not undertaken as photographs provided by the Town of Caledon (June 30, 2021) and the property owners (October 2021) are sufficiently informative for purposes of this Report.

An expert in 19<sup>th</sup> century Ontario barns, George Duncan, provided comment on the type and cultural heritage significance of the barn. He did so based on the June 2021 photographs.

### 3.0 SUBJECT PROPERTY

#### 3.1 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The property at 552 The Grange Sideroad is within the southwest part of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, Town of Caledon. This is now a 51.36-acre parcel of land on the north side of The Grange Sideroad and east side of Shaw's Creek Road. It contains a c.1870s farmhouse and barn, laneway, 20<sup>th</sup> century outbuilding, and mature trees, notably a century old Black Walnut. The 20<sup>th</sup> century outbuilding was found to be of no heritage merit and no further evaluation was undertaken.



**Figure 1: Aerial View**

Property boundary with arrow at buildings.

The property is located halfway between the historic villages of Rockside to the south and Belfountain to the north. At the southeast corner of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon, was the historic settlement known as Greenlaw. This settlement was never large enough in population to achieve a post office. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the nearest post office was to the east at the historic hamlet known as The Grange.

#### 3.2 HERITAGE STATUS

This property is listed by Council Resolution 2020-91 on the Town of Caledon Register of Cultural Heritage Properties as prescribed by s.27 of the OHA. The listing states it is an "early Caledon Township farmstead. There are two heritage resources on the property." The principal resource is described as "1875-1899 Late Neoclassical style farmhouse with a synthetic exterior." It is noted that "the farmhouse is altered." The secondary resource is the barn, described as "vertical board,

raised three bay, 1875-1899.” A “walnut on lawn” is noted as a contextual landscape element. This property is located within the boundaries of what the Town has identified as the candidate Rockside Cultural Heritage Landscape.

#### 4.0 HISTORICAL OR ASSOCIATIVE VALUE

##### O. Regulation 9/06

The property has historical value or associative value because it,

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

#### 4.1 CALEDON TOWNSHIP

The townships of Caledon, Albion, and Chinguacousy were surveyed in 1818-1819 and opened for settlement. In the northwest part of Peel County, now the Region of Peel, Caledon Township was divided into two sectors identified as West or East Centre Road, renamed West or East Hurontario Street (“WHS” “EHS”), now Highway 10.

The majority of Caledon Township is within the Niagara Escarpment lands and characterized by a stony, hilly terrain, with pine growth. The rugged terrain was generally poor for farming. The early colonial settler population was sparse and comprised predominantly of hardy Scottish settlers. The subject property is within the southwest part of the former township.

According to the *Toronto and Home District Directory* for 1837, by that date there were 750 landowners in Caledon Township living east of Hurontario Street, and 738 living west of Hurontario Street. The 1846 *Smith’s Canadian Gazetteer* notes that by 1842, the population of the township was 1,920 and by 1846 there were three gristmills and one sawmill. “Four hundred acres of Crown lands are open for sale in Caledon, at 8s. [shillings] c’y [currency] per acre.”

When the Grand Trunk Railway opened between Toronto and the town of Brampton in Chinguacousy Township on June 16, 1856, it marked the start of the railway era in this part of Ontario. The Credit Valley Railway, Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway, and Hamilton & North Western Railway (later the Canadian National Railway) crossed Caledon Township by the end of the 1870s. There was no railway line near the subject property at Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township.

In the 1877 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Peel County*, Caledon Township is described as follows:

For the most part the township is quite hilly, but the greater part of the land is arable and well settled, and it has been growing in favour as good farming land for several years. Caledon was the last Township in Peel to be settled, as the early pioneers thought it would be impossible to live so far away from civilization. However, about the years 1819 and 1820 a number of hardy men ventured into the then wilderness and shortly after a large number followed forming the nucleus of a wealthy community.

The Town of Caledon was established on January 1, 1974, as an amalgamation of Caledon, Albion, and the northern half of Chinguacousy townships. The Town is the northernmost municipality in the Region of Peel and is largely rural.

## 4.2 PROPERTY CHRONOLOGY

### 4.2.1 MICHAEL BAKER, SR. (OWNER 1818-1872)

The Upper Canada Land Records Index (“UCLR”) is a listing of the earliest land transactions (grant, sale, lease, assignment, etc.) between the Crown and individuals. These transactions date to before the Crown Patent was issued as the final requirement for acquiring legal ownership of Crown land. The UCLR captures how land was distributed after a township or town was surveyed into lots and concessions or plans of subdivision. Surveying in Caledon Township was underway in 1818 and completed by 1819.

The UCLR indicates that an Order in Council dated April 16, 1818, issued the 200 acres of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, as a free grant to Michael Baker. He was identified as the son of a United Empire Loyalist (“UEL”) and living in “Williamsburgh.” UELs and often their sons and daughters were granted free land in British North America (Canada) in compensation for losses incurred when they remained loyal to the British Crown during and following the American Revolutionary War of 1775 to 1783. The initial UELs settled primarily in Nova Scotia and Quebec. Some settled in Upper Canada (Ontario) following its creation in 1791. Typically, these settlers were not required to complete Settlement Duties (clearing acreage and building a dwelling) before being issued the Crown Patent.

According to an online Baker family genealogy (ancestry.ca), Michael Baker was born in Quebec on July 31, 1795, the fourth son of Conrad Baker (born 1763 in New York; died 1826 in Kensington, Pennsylvania) and Maria Margaretha Surrick (born 1769; died 1855 in Pennsylvania). Conrad Baker left the United States as a UEL and about 1790 married Maria, possibly in Quebec. Their first children may have been born in Williamsburgh Township, Dundas County, in Eastern Ontario; then Michael was born in Quebec in 1795; Peter in 1800 (location unknown); Conrad in 1801 in Ontario, plus later children in Ontario.

In 1817 in Ontario, Michael Baker married Catharine (or Caterina) Frank. She was born December 12, 1798, in Williamsburgh Township, the daughter of UEL William John Frank (1765-1840) and Friderica Juliana Margaretha Muller Miller (1770-1862). On the same day, April 16, 1818, that

Michael Baker received his free land grant as the son of a UEL, Catharine Baker received 200 acres of the north abutting Lot 7, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, as a free grant for being the daughter of a UEL.

Michael and Catharine Baker's children might have been William (born May 1818 in Woodstock; died 1902); Margaret (born 1822); Mary Ann (born November 1822 in Georgetown; died 1903); Catherine (born in Caledon Township 1824; died 1891); John (born in Caledon Township 1828; died 1905); Henry (born 1831); Margaret (born 1837 in Caledon Township; died 1917); Henry (born 1839); Alice (born 1840); Conrad (born in Caledon Township 1840; died 1930); and Alexander Gordon (born in Belfountain 1843; died 1922).<sup>1</sup> If the date and location of the birth of Mary Ann are correct, the Bakers may not have arrived in Caledon Township until after November 1822 and before Catherine was born in 1824.

The June 23, 2015 issue of the online series "Stalking Dead People" by William Cooke features Greenlaw Cemetery (also known as Baker Cemetery) at the southeast corner of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon. The cemetery site was donated by Michael Baker. Cooke notes that Michael Baker is interred at Greenlaw:

The earliest gravestone is that of Michael Baker who died in 1873. Michael was born in Williamsburgh Township, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, in 1795. His father, Conrad Baker was an United Empire Loyalist who had served in the King's Royal Regiment of New York during the American Revolution. During the War of 1812, Michael served in the 1st Regiment Dundas Militia. In 1818, the same year he married Caterina Frank, Michael petitioned the government of Upper Canada for land as the son of a United Empire Loyalist. He was granted 200 acres in Caledon and was one of the earliest settlers.

The Crown Patent for the 200 acres of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, was issued to Michael Baker on May 16, 1827. The Patent for Lot 7 was issued to Catharine Baker on the same day.

There is a local history tradition that Michael Baker assisted the Scottish settlers who founded the Rockside community at the intersect of Lots 1, Concession 5 and 6, WHS, Caledon Township, and Lots 34, Concessions 5 and 6, WHS, Chinguacousy Township. The reminiscence of Robert Crichton (1839-1923), *The Rockside Pioneers being Traditions and Reminiscences of Pioneer Days by Timothy Hayseed Wayback*,<sup>2</sup> explains that Robert's father, John Crichton, was a native of Paisley, Scotland, born on August 7, 1795. On April 20, 1820, John and a friend sailed from Greenock, Scotland, to Upper Canada on the promise of employment at Brockville. On board they met "a group of emigrants from the Parish of Lockwinnoch, Renfrewshire, and central in this group was an old man, John McDonald. . . . with his wife Margaret Gibson, and their large family of

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<sup>1</sup> Some online Michael and Catherine Baker genealogical charts add George (born 1825); Martin (1827); Benjamin (1832); Mary Ann (1835); Jeremiah (1836); Levi (1837); Reuben (1842); Michael (1844); and Rosanna (1846) to the list of children. These may be their children but are more likely members of a blended and/or next generation family group.

<sup>2</sup> Written in 1916, it was published in 1976 as *The Rockside Pioneers*.

grown up sons and daughters, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law, and grandchildren, besides some others who had cast in their lot with them.” This group constituted the founding Scottish settlers at Rockside.

According to the 2006 *Town of Caledon Rockside Cultural Heritage Landscape Study*:

As documented by Robert Crichton, son of RP [Rockside Pioneer] John Crichton, in his memoir, many of the Scottish settlers were completely unfamiliar with the use of the axe, the basic tool of pioneer survival. Land clearing, firewood chopping and house building were dependent on its skilled use. Still, necessity and the early arrival in the area of several families skilled in backwoods living, including: Michael Baker, Frederick Frank, Aaron Teeter, James Hunter and James McLaren, led to quick learning and adjustment to the requirements of frontier life.

In August 1833, Michael Baker “and spouse” sold the north half of Lot 7, Concession 5, WHS (part of Catharine’s UEL grant lot) to Gilbert Carmichael for £68.15s. The 1837 directory for Caledon Township lists Michael “Beikie” on Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS. Gilbert Carmichael is listed on Lot 7, Concession 5, WHS.

In April 1842, Michael Baker “and spouse” sold the south half of Catharine’s Lot 7 to William Baker for £50. William was the eldest son of Michael and Catharine. He was born in Woodstock, Oxford County, on May 6, 1818, and was married to Charlotte Emily Seymour by February 1838 when their daughter Mary Ann was born (died 1842).

Brown’s 1846-47 directory lists Michael “Bacon” on Lot 6, Concession 5 (no WHS or EHS is indicated). It lists William “Bacon” on Lot 7, Concession 4 (not 5). There were Bacon family members living in Caledon Township but in this instance “Bacon” may be a misinterpretation of Baker. Concession 4 may be in error for Concession 5, as the Rowsell’s 1850-51 directory lists Michael Baker on Lot 6 and William Baker on Lot 7, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon.

The 1851 personal census for Caledon Township lists Michael Baker, 57, with Catharine, 53. Both were born in Canada and of Free Church faith. In the household were Catharine, 28; John, 24; Henry, 21; Margaret, 17; Conrad, 12; and Gordon, 8 [Alexander Gordon].<sup>3</sup> William Baker, 34, was enumerated on the neighbouring property with his spouse Charlotte, 32, and their children Elizabeth, 11; Michael, 9; Catharine, 4; and Mary J., 1. There is no copy of the 1851 agricultural census available for Caledon Township to confirm their locations, but the households enumerated nearby on the personal census align with the area names on the 1859 Tremaine map of Caledon (Figure 2).

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<sup>3</sup> The census enumerator did not align the Baker name line numbers with the line numbers identifying their type of dwelling. The only dwelling types enumerated in the vicinity were one storey log or one storey frame. The dwelling now at 552 The Grange Sideroad is a 1 ½ storey, frame structure.



In 1850, Michael Baker (Sr.) began to subdivide his 200 acres of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon. The settlement of Greenlaw developed at the southeast corner. The chronology of subdividing and resales to 1859 are as follows:

- 1850 September:** Michael Baker sold land to the Trustees of Union Chapel for £1
- 1854 May:** Michael Baker sold 50 acres of the east and west halves to John Baker for £50
- 1855 March:** John Baker sold his 50 acres to Salem Foster for £200
- 1855 December:** Salem Foster sold 7 and 2/10 acres of the east half to Meadows Brock for £160
- 1857 February:** Salem Foster sold 8 acres of the west half to Michael Baker for £30

The 1859 Tremaine map of Caledon Township (Figure 2) illustrates these subdivisions. There is no farm dwelling indicated on Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, but this is not definitive proof that none existed at this time.

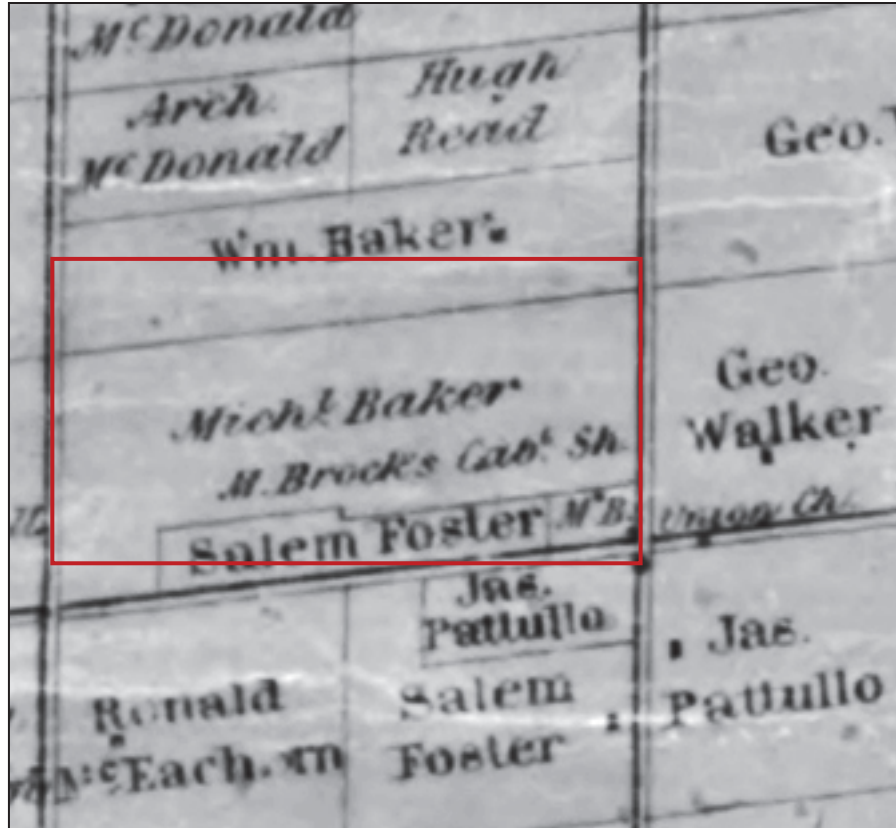
The 1861 personal census for Caledon lists Michael Baker, 65, as a Congregationalist. In the household were Catharine, 62; Henry, 29; Conrad, 21; Gordon, 17; Alice, 21; and Mary, 19. They occupied a 1.5 storey, frame dwelling. The census indicates that two families were living in the house and also that Conrad and Mary were each married in the last year, presumably to each other and thus creating the second family group. The 1861 agricultural census lists Michael Baker with 158 acres<sup>4</sup> of Lot 6, Concession 5, valued at \$3,160 (a mid to high range in value by comparison to similar acreage in 1861). Their two-family dwelling could be anywhere on the 158 acres.

Mitchell's 1866 directory for Caledon lists Michael Baker, Sr., as the owner of Lot 6, Concession 5. Cabinet maker Meadows Brock and "Samuel" Foster are also listed as Lot 6, Concession 5, as owners. They owned smaller parcels of land within Lot 6.

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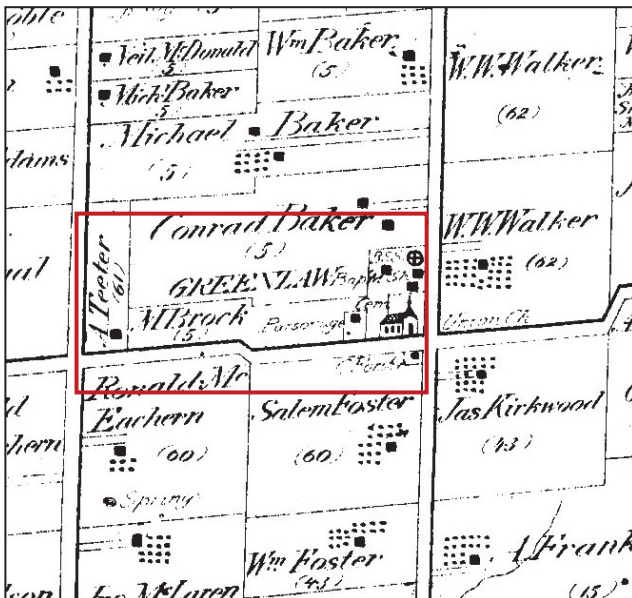
<sup>4</sup> This 158 acres would be the 150 acres he retained plus the 8 acres repurchased from Salem Foster.





**Figure 2: Tremaine Map of Caledon Township, 1859**

This 1859 map of Caledon Township plots the division of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, between Michael Baker; Meadows Brock ("M. Brocks Cabinet Shop"); Salem Foster; and a corner parcel "M.B." likely Michael Baker. Note the dwelling indicated on the William Baker property (Lot 7) and that no dwelling is indicated on the Michael Baker property (Lot 6) except at the southeast corner ("M B") in the hamlet of Greenlaw. This does not mean no dwelling existed elsewhere on Lot 6.



**Figure 3: The Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Peel, 1877**

Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon, is divided between Conrad Baker, M. Brock, and A. Teeter. A dwelling indicated on the A. Teeter property is in the location of 552 The Grange Sideroad. Conrad Baker has two dwellings. Michael Baker, Sr., died in 1873.

William and Michael Baker are on Lot 7, Concession 5, WHS, to the north, with four dwellings between them.

A church, parsonage, cemetery, Baptist school, blacksmith shop, and another building are at Greenlaw at the southwest corner of Lot 6.

#### 4.2.2 ALEXANDER GORDON BAKER (OWNER 1869/1872-1875)

On October 2, 1869, Michael Baker, Sr., signed an Agreement with Gordon Baker for the 50 acres within the southwest quarter of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS. “Gordon” is believed to be Alexander Gordon, Michael and Catharine’s youngest son (born August 11, 1843, in Caledon Township). The acreage identified in the Agreement measured from the southwest corner of the property owned by Salem Foster. Gordon was to pay his parents, for the balance of their lifetimes, the annual sum of \$25. In return, Michael agreed that at his death the 50 acres would be conveyed to Gordon. The Agreement concludes, “And for the true performance of these covenants and agreements aforesaid each of the said parties bindeth himself, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns in the [final] sum of \$2,000 of lawful money of Canada.” The meaning of this \$2,000 binding is not understood.

Gordon Baker had married Mary Ann Eagles on May 26, 1863, in Meaford. Their son William Nelson Baker was born July 1864 in Orangeville, followed by a son George Albert in October 1866 in Grey Township, and a third son Wilbert A. Baker in 1875 in Toronto. When the Agreement was signed in October 1869, Gordon was identified as a farmer living in Caledon Township. He was also or would become a carpenter, as his death certificate indicates he was a carpenter when he died in Owen Sound on June 3, 1922, age 78.

In June 1870, Alexander Gordon Baker (“Gordon”) acquired 33 and 4/5s acres of the west and east halves of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, from Salem Foster for \$680. The Foster acreage is plotted on the 1859 map (Figure 2). Gordon mortgaged that property for \$350.

The 1871 census for Caledon lists Michael, Sr., 78, with Catharine, 70, in their own household enumerated next to/near the separate households of Conrad, 30; Henry, 48; Michael, 28; and their families. The William Baker, age 53, household was more distant. Gordon Baker, 26, and his spouse Mary A., 25, with their children William N., 7; George, 9; and Andrew, 3,<sup>5</sup> were a greater distance from Michael, Sr., but all these households were within enumeration District 5 Caledon. It is possible that these households were all within the east and west halves of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, but being on different concession roads were enumerated at a distance apart. All were identified being of German ancestry.

On December 6, 1872, six months before his death, Michael, Sr., sold to Gordon Baker, the agreed to southwest 50 acres of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon. This west 50 acres includes the acreage at 552 The Grange Sideroad. This added to the 33 and 4/5s acres of the west and east halves Gordon had bought from Salem Foster in 1870. On December 20, 1872, Gordon mortgaged the 50-acre parcel with James Beatty for \$700.

Michael Baker, Sr., died on June 19, 1873, age 77, at Belfountain, and is interred in the Greenlaw (Baker) Cemetery.

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<sup>5</sup> The genealogical record for Alexander Gordon Baker does not list a son Andrew. A son Wilbert A. is said to be born in 1875.

Lynch's 1873-74 directory lists Conrad, Gordon, and Michael Baker on Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, and Michael Baker on Lot 7, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon.<sup>6</sup> In November 1875, Henry Baker and others sold part of the northwest quarter and northeast half of Lot 6 to Conrad Baker, as shown on the 1877 map (Figure 3). Henry and the others may have been acting as the executors to Michael, Sr.'s estate. The widowed Catharine (Frank) Baker married John Nunn (born 1803) on April 16, 1874. John died in 1877 and Catharine died on March 15, 1881, in Belfountain.

#### 4.2.3 AARON TEETER (OWNER 1875-1881)

On December 10, 1875, Gordon Baker sold the 50 acres of the southwest half of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon, to Erin Township (neighbouring Wellington County) farmer Aaron Teeter. Gordon and Mary Ann Baker were identified on the deed as Caledon Township farmers. Teeter paid \$298 plus the \$700 mortgage owed by Gordon to John Beatty since December 1872. The total purchase price of \$998 suggests there may have been some development on the property, possibly including a dwelling and/or barn. The 1877 map (Figure 3) plots "A. Teeter" on this acreage and a dwelling at the location of 552 The Grange Sideroad. This is believed to be the dwelling now at 552 The Grange Sideroad.

In February 1876, Gordon sold the 33 acres of the east and west halves of Lot 6 to Meadows Brock. This Brock acreage is plotted on the 1877 map (Figure 3).

This Aaron Teeter might have been born in Erin Township about 1840, the son of Isaac Albert Teeter (born 1815 in Grimsby; died 1898)<sup>7</sup> and Margaret McDermind (1816-1853).<sup>8</sup> Isaac Albert Teeter was the son of Aaron Michael Teeter, Sr. (born 1782 in Sussex, New Jersey, USA; died 1866) and Katy Waity Chevalier (1784-1856). According to Berniece Trimble in her publication, *Belfountain caves, castles and quarries in the Caledon Hills*, the origin of the founding Teeters is as follows:

Aaron Teeter [Sr.] was born 1782 in Sussex County, New Jersey, USA, arrived in Canada that same year with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Teeter who settled at Grimsby. Aaron Teeter married Waity Chevalier, came to the Sixth Line (Town Line) of Caledon-Erin in 1822 and built a shanty on his 200-acre farm. He had the first frame barn in the locality and it was built by a man named Shuttle. They had 13 children . . . .

The Aaron Teeter who was born about 1840 married in Erin Township on November 29, 1865. His spouse was Ellen Teeter. She was born January 11, 1843, in Erin Township, the daughter of another Aaron Teeter (born in Grimsby 1818; died 1909) and Sarah Mary McEnery (1821-1885). Her parents are identified on Aaron and Ellen's marriage certificate as Aaron and Mary Teeter.

<sup>6</sup> The Lynch 1873-74 directory might not be updated to the death of Michael Baker, Sr., in June 1873.

<sup>7</sup> Aaron's father Albert Teeter married several times, possibly a first wife who died in 1846; Margaret McDermind (died 1853), and Sarah McCarten. The result was Aaron had several siblings and half siblings.

<sup>8</sup> The online genealogy (ancestry.ca) for Isaac Albert Teeter suggests he was married to Maria Eagles who was born in 1825 and died on May 22, 1846. It also lists Isaac's marriage to Margaret McDermind in 1836. Margaret died in 1853. The Maria Eagles reference may be an error.

Ellen's father Aaron may also be a son of Aaron Michael Teeter, Sr., and Katy Waity Chevalier. This means that her father and her father-in-law were brothers, and that she and her spouse Aaron were first cousins.

The 1871 census for Caledon Township lists an Aaron Teeter as age 32, a farmer of Dutch origin and Episcopal Methodist faith. "Dutch" is a perversion of Deutch, meaning German. In the household were Ellen, 28, and their children Frank E., 2; and Mary E. [Elizabeth], 3 months. All were born in Ontario. They were enumerated for the census in District 4, Caledon (distant from the Bakers in District 5) as the Teeters had not yet purchased Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon.<sup>9</sup> No Aaron Teeter could be located in the 1881 census for Erin or Caledon Township.<sup>10</sup> Aaron and Ellen Teeter had three children: Frank E, born 1869, Mary Elizabeth, born 1871 in



Figure 4: *Georgetown Herald*, April 10, 1929

Ellen Teeter died April 3, 1929, and is interred in Greenwood Cemetery

Georgetown (died September 1, 1915, in Halton County); and Nancy, born February 20, 1873 (died 1951).

Ellen's full name might have been Mary Ellen Teeter. This is based on the finding that in the enumeration of the 1891 census, a Mary Teeter was a widow living in Georgetown, Halton County, with her children Frank, 22; Elizabeth, 20; and Nancy, 18. This suggests her spouse Aaron Teeter died after the 1881 sale of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon, and before the 1891 census enumeration. In 1901, Ellen "Tutor" was enumerated in Georgetown where she was a "charwoman" living with her daughter Nancy.

The obituary of Ellen Teeter (Figure 4) "widow of the late Aaron Teeter" states she was a resident of Georgetown for 40 years prior to April 1929. It could be that she moved there following Aaron's death, making his death about 1889. She was survived by a daughter, Nancy and Ellen's daughter "Mrs. Robert Scott died 14 years ago." The daughter of Aaron and Ellen, Mary Elizabeth, married Robert Henry Scott and died in September 1915. There is no mention of the son Frank E. Teeter in Ellen's obituary. Ellen did have

<sup>9</sup> The Lynch 1873-74 directory lists an Aaron Teeter on Lot 13, Concession 5, Caledon. This was likely the "Aaron K. Teeter" who bought the 100 acres of the west half of Lot 13, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, in October 1868 and sold to William Pinkney in April 1874.

<sup>10</sup> Not finding Teeter in the 1881 census for Caledon Township may be due to the variations of spelling and the poor quality of the microfilm reproduction of the census, making for a difficult search and indexing. The Isaac Teeter, Sr., household, but not Aaron, was in Erin Township in 1881 as "Luter."



a brother Isaac (1858-1942), as mentioned in the obituary.

#### **4.2.4 GEORGE REEVELY (OWNER 1881-1884)**

In November 1881, Aaron Teeter sold his 50 acres to George Reevely for \$1,600. This is an increase of about \$600 since the sale to Teeter in 1875. Reevely partially mortgaged the property with Teeter in 1881 for \$600 and partially with the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company in 1883 for \$700. The mortgage with Teeter was discharged in 1883.

#### **4.2.5 MARY TEETER (OWNER 1884-1891)**

In January 1884, George Reevely and his wife Mary, both of Caledon Township, sold the 50 acres to a Mary Teeter for \$450 plus the \$700 mortgage. Mary Teeter is identified on the deed (No. 5065) as the wife of Alexander Teeter of Erin Township.

This may be the Alexander Teeter who married Mary Teeter in Erin Township on December 19, 1883. They were both age 25 and living in Erin Township at that date. According to their marriage certificate, Alexander was the son of Isaac [Albert] Teeter and Sarah Mary “McCartney” [McCarten]. Sarah was Isaac’s second or third spouse. Mary was the daughter of William Teeter and Jane McHenry.<sup>11</sup> Alexander was likely a half-brother to Aaron Teeter (the 1875-1881 owner of the property).

The Union Publishing Co. 1887 directory for Caledon lists Nelson Teeter, post office Credit Forks, as a tenant on Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS. This may be Nelson, born in November 1851, the brother of Alexander Teeter and a half-brother to Aaron Teeter.

#### **4.2.6 CHARLES AND WILLIAM J. OVERLAND (OWNERS 1891-1916)**

In March 1891, Alexander Teeter quit claimed ownership of the property to Charles Overland and a \$100 promissory note owed by Teeter to Overland was negated.<sup>12</sup> This may have been in return for Overland taking responsibility for the mortgage. They were both identified as Caledon Township farmers. In 1902, the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company “sold” the property to Overland. This probably settled the 1883 mortgage of \$700 the Company held previously with George Reevely and that was transferred to Mary Teeter, through Alexander Teeter, to Overland.

The 1891 census for Caledon Township lists Charles Overland as age 44, a farmer, of English origin. His spouse Ellen (Gibson) was 34, of Irish origin. Their children were Margaret, age 11; and William, 7. All the family members were born in Ontario. Also in the household was Charles’s mother, Mary A. Overland, age 73, born in England. Their dwelling is described as two storeys,

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<sup>11</sup> The 1881 census for Erin Township lists the Teeters misspelled or misnamed as “Lestor.” At that date, Mary was living with her parents William and Jane, and her siblings.

<sup>12</sup> Several generations of Teeters were intermarried with Overlands in Caledon and Erin Townships.

wood, with eight rooms. This 1891 census entry may be describing the Overland household before relocating to Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS.

According to the 1901 census for Caledon, Charles Overland was born on June 9, 1848, and was of Church of England faith. Ellen was born March 8, 1856, and was of Presbyterian faith. Their children were Margaret, born February 7, 1880, and William Joseph, born May 12, 1883, both of Methodist faith. They were farmers.

In June 1905, an annuity deed was agreed to between Charles Overland (and others); Margaret E. Overland, spinster; and William Joseph Overland. This was regarding an annual annuity or rent charge of \$150 that was payable by William J. to Margaret (his sister) “during her natural lifetime.”

On December 11, 1908, William J. Overland married Caroline Duke. Margaret E. Sanderson (presumed to be the former Margaret E. Overland) quit claimed the 50 acres of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, to William J. in March 1914.

#### **4.2.7 RUBEN C. CARPENTER (OWNER 1916-1944)**

In April 1916, William J. Overland sold the “50 acres” to Ruben C. Carpenter for \$1,700. The 1921 census for Caledon Township lists Carpenter as age 28, a farmer, of Irish origin, and born in the United States. He immigrated to Canada in 1908. His spouse was [Genireire] Carpenter, age 29, with American-born parents. They lived in a single family dwelling, wood, with five rooms, which may describe the dwelling at 552 The Grange Sideroad.

#### **4.2.8 SUBSEQUENT OWNERS (1944-2006)**

In February 1944, Reuben C. Carpenter sold the 50 acres to Franklin H. Johnston.

In April 1945, Johnston sold to Fred N. Grace, who transferred ownership of the property as security for a mortgage with the Director, The Veterans Land Act.

Possibly due to a default on the mortgage, the Veteran’s Director sold the 50 acres to Cecil Norman Storey and Marian Lawson Storey in September 1952. It was described as the southwest quarter, 50 acres. In 1960, it was necessary for Myrtle Corner, who owned several parcels of land within Lot 6 originally owned by the Bakers, to quit any claim of ownership to any part of the acreage owned by the Storeys.

Cecil M. Storey and Marian L. Storey sold “part of the west half” to Olga Jackson and Barbara Jackson on May 7, 1974.

#### **4.2.9 CURRENT OWNERS (2006)**

In November 2006, Barbara Jackson sold “49 acres” of 552 The Grange Road to the current



owners, Larry and Denise Evans. The property is now described as 51.36-acres.<sup>13</sup>

#### **4.3 SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL OR ASSOCIATIVE VALUE**

The historical or associative value of this property is found in its direct association from 1818 to at least 1891 with the Michael Baker and Aaron Teeter families. This parcel of land roots to a 200-acre free grant of land in 1818 to Michael Baker, who was the son of a United Empire Loyalist. Baker was both among the first settlers to arrive in Caledon Township and among the first settlers of American-German culture in the township. As a daughter of a United Empire Loyalist, in 1818 Michael's spouse Catharine (Frank) received the abutting Lot 7 as a free grant. Typical of settler families and particularly of those with Germanic ancestry, the Bakers and their sons clustered their separate households within these shared lots. In 1869, the elderly Michael allocated the southwest 50 acres of Lot 6 to his son, Alexander Gordon Baker. At 50 acres, this was a small farm by Ontario standards of 100 to 200 acres and was likely secondary to the needs of this youngest member of the second generation of Bakers in Caledon Township. Gordon sold in 1875 to Aaron Teeter. The Teeters also were early settlers of American-German ancestry in Caledon and nearby Erin Township. The design of the c.1872-1876 bank barn on the property exhibits the Germanic influence of its owner, possibly builder, Gordon Baker or Aaron Teeter.

#### **5.0 DESIGN OR PHYSICAL VALUE**

##### **O. Regulation 9/06**

The property has design value or physical value because it,

- i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method,
- ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or
- iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.

#### **5.1 DWELLING**

##### **5.1.1 CONSTRUCTION TYPE**

The current owners of the property at 552 The Grange Sideroad describe the dwelling as balloon frame construction with round nails.

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<sup>13</sup> Investigating the discrepancy between the 49 and 51.36-acre description was considered inconsequential to the historic chronology of this property and was not pursued.

Balloon frame construction was practiced from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the earliest examples using heavy timbers. A balloon frame structure more commonly has dimensioned lumber (sawn 2x4s, 2x6s, or 2x8s) used as wall studs running continuously from the sill plate (at the foundation level) to the rafter plate (at the eaves level), typically 16 inches apart to accommodate the 4-foot increments of the wall sheathing material. Walls are typically assembled on their side and tilted upright into position, to allow nails to be driven through the plate and into the studs instead of toenailing. After all the walls are in place and secured, the next step is to install the floor joists. The first step in this is to attach the ribbon at the correct floor joist height. The ribbon is typically a piece of 1x6 inch lumber that runs the length of the wall and is used to rest the joists on while they are being installed. Once the floor joists are installed, the floor can be laid and the ceiling joists are installed on top of the rafter plate. When the wall framing is complete, the roof framing and wall sheathing begins.

This type of construction proved to be a fire hazard as there was nothing in the wall cavity to halt a fire from spreading from the sill plate to the rafters. Its use was discontinued by the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Wire nails, often called “round” nails, were introduced in the 1850s and manufactured using steel wire. The first type was a very small finishing nail used for picture frames, cigar boxes, etc., but not for building construction. The standard nail for building construction was blacksmith forged, followed by machine cut, flat sided nails with square or rectangular shaped heads. Larger sized wire nails were being manufactured in large quantity in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, making it the most popular nail for building construction due to its strength and low cost. The square cut nail was still available into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century but was not as popular with builders. In the example of 552 The Grange Sideroad, the co-existence of wire nails in the dwelling and the typically older square nails in the barn does not eliminate the possibility that the two structures are contemporary.

### **5.1.2 STYLE AND FORM OF DWELLING**

Figures 5 and 6 show the dwelling in 2004 and 2006. It is a two storey structure with a cross gable, medium pitch roof, and a 3-bay (door and flanking window openings) front (south) facade. The door is offset from the centre of the façade. There is a main west/east rectangular block and a rear north/south block. Flanking and linked to the east façade is a one storey, gable roofed section that may have been a kitchen, woodshed, or in the Germanic tradition used as a second family residence. Second storey window openings are visible on the east facade, but there are none on the second storey of the front façade. (The west facade is not visible.)

The plainness of this dwelling suggests that its purpose was simply as traditional accommodation for a farm family. It was built in the 1870s, by which time Gothic Revival style dwellings with dichromatic brickwork and an exuberance of decorative embellishments were

**Figure 5:** South façade showing linked addition on right (east) and laneway, 2004 (Source: Town of Caledon)



**Figure 6:** South façade, 2006 (Source: Town of Caledon Property Summary: Candidate for Listing on Heritage Register)



**Figure 7:** South façade, October 2021 (Source: Denise and Larry Evans)







**Figure 8: Above:** West façade, June 30, 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 9: Below:** South façade showing laneway and Black Walnut tree, October 2021 (Source: Denise and Larry Evans)





**Figure 10: Above:** East facades of main house and east flanking section, October 2021 (Source: Denise and Larry Evans)

**Figure 11: Below:** West façade, October 2021 (Source: Denise and Larry Evans)







**Figure 12:** North façade, October 2021 (Source: Denise and Larry Evans)

prevalent. Unless removed or well hidden, these popular embellishments were avoided in this dwelling.

### 5.1.3 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION OF DWELLING

In October 1869, Michael Baker, Sr., signed an Agreement with his youngest son, Gordon Baker, for the eventual purchase of the 50 acres within the southwest quarter of Michael's homestead farm, Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township. This 50 acres includes 552 The Grange Sideroad. When the Agreement was signed, Gordon was a farmer living in Caledon Township (possibly at opposite ends of the same lot as Michael). He was also then, or soon became, a carpenter. In June 1870, Gordon acquired 33 and 4/5s acres of the west and east halves of Lot 6 from Salem Foster for \$680 and arranged a mortgage. The 1871 personal census for Caledon lists Gordon in his own household some distance from the Michael, Sr., household but still within District 5, Caledon, and possibly within Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS.

Michael sold the 50 acres to Gordon in December 1872 and Gordon mortgaged it for \$700. The Lynch 1873-74 Caledon directory lists Gordon on Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS. In December 1875, he sold the 50 acres to Erin Township farmer Aaron Teeter for \$298 and the assumption of the \$700 mortgage. This purchase price of \$998 suggests there was some development on the 50 acres that might have included the barn and/or the dwelling.

Since the technology of balloon framing and wire nail construction was available by the 1870s, the construction of the existing dwelling could be attributed to Gordon Baker. This may have been between the December 1872 date of the purchase and mortgage by Gordon Baker and 1875 when the 50 acres were sold by Baker to Aaron Teeter. The 1877 map of Caledon Township plots



“A. Teeter” and a dwelling at the location of 552 The Grange Sideroad. If not built by or for Gordon Baker about 1872, the dwelling was built by or for Aaron Teeter in 1875-1876.

#### **5.1.4 HISTORIC INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY OF DWELLING**

Without early photographic evidence, it is difficult to fully determine the evolution of this dwelling from its date of construction. The form, massing, some of the window openings, and the gable roof of the main section are likely original. The rear section is two-storey but could have been a single storey when built. The linked structure flanking on the east may be a later addition.

By 2006, the window openings had been altered, the exterior cladding overlaid with InsulBrick, and an overhang was added above the front entry door. Insulbrick is the tradename for a fibreboard sheathing coated with tar and added granular material, similar to asphalt shingles. The surface was stamped with a brick or rectangular stone pattern. It was manufactured in Canada from the mid 1930s to 1960s and was a quick and inexpensive solution to weatherproofing often deteriorated siding.

Figures 7 to 12 dating June and October 2021 show the same form and massing as in 2004 and 2006. The walls have been clad in vertical board and batten type siding. There are modified window openings and new sashes. The east flanking structure is renovated and a porch has been added to the south façade of the house. The porch may have brought the appearance of this façade closer to how the dwelling looked when built.

In its current state, the original/ near original form and massing of the dwelling may be intact but otherwise much has been lost or altered. This questions the historic integrity and authenticity of the dwelling to the extent that it does not meet the threshold of the criteria of O. Reg. 9/06. It is not an authentic example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method, and the degree of craftsmanship is indiscernible. There is no technical or scientific achievement evident.



**Figure 13: Above:** Barn, west (left) and south façades, showing natural rise in slope to the north, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 14: Below:** Barn, west façade with dwelling on right, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)



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**Figure 15: Above:** Barn, west (right) façade and north façade with modern lean-to addition rebuilt in 2016, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 16: Below:** Barn, north façade showing earth ramp and drive door accessing the centre bay threshing floor, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)







**Figure 17: Above:** Barn, south façade, showing stone foundation / stable area set into natural slope at east end, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 18: Below:** Barn, south façade foundation showing original stone and sections of concrete block repair, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)







**Figure 19: Above:** Barn, northeast corner showing red sandstone quoins and section of original siding. Note lower height of foundation wall compared to south façade due to change in grade, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 20: Below: Left:** Southwest corner of barn showing the foundation boulder at grade and red sandstone quoins, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 21: Below: Right:** Southeast corner of barn showing red sandstone quoins and rise in grade to the north. June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)





**Figure 22:** East façade of barn showing corner of north façade lean-to, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

## 5.2 BARN

### 5.2.1 ANALYSIS BY GEORGE DUNCAN

*An expert in Ontario barns, George Duncan examined the June 2021 images of the barn provided by the Town. The following includes his observations, with annotations from Town of Caledon Heritage Resource Officer Sally Drummond, who conducted a site visit on June 30, 2021:*



#### Size and Form

Built into the site's natural slope, this bank barn measures 50 ft. by 36 ft. It is small compared to the standard size of barn built for 19<sup>th</sup> century farms in Ontario.<sup>14</sup> It is designed to serve a farm with a small acreage, in this case only 50 acres. Its purpose-built saltbox form is uncommon (Figure 23). Usually a

**Figure 23:** West façade of barn indicating the main section (red) and extension (yellow) creating the saltbox form (Source: Town of Caledon)

<sup>14</sup> This observation supports the suggestion that the barn was built for the 50 acres severed from the larger acreage of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township.



gable-roofed barn with a saltbox profile is the result of a lean-to addition being made to one entire wall of the original structure, or it is an original feature of a Pennsylvania-German/Swiss German bank barn with a forebay that provides an overhang. Building a small barn with a saltbox profile reduces the volume of storage within the mows due to the reduced height on the one side. The design is attractive if not necessarily as functional as a full-height barn. In this instance, if the south wall height was the same as the north wall height, then there would be a higher roof and more space under it on both sides of the barn.

The lean-to on the north side of the building (Figure 15) measures 20 ft. by 20 ft. It does not follow the traditional placement of lean-tos on Ontario barns on an end wall, possibly because of the difficulty accommodating the natural slope in that location. The lean to, which was probably added in the 1940s or 1950s to accommodate the farm's first tractor, was rebuilt in 2016.

Rectangular in form, the barn is divided by interior timber frame "bents" into three sections or bays. The central bay is an open area called the drive floor or threshing floor, accessed through a drive door from the earth ramp on the north facade. On either side of the threshing floor are the mows where feed and grain were stored. The grain was typically stored in a granary with tight wooden walls and a ceiling, positioned to take up about half the main floor space within one of the mows. [Drummond: There appear to be remnants of the granary along the north wall, east of the centre mow.]

### **Framing and Siding**

The west gable end of the barn has been re-framed with dimensional lumber in a non-traditional pattern and differs from the original heavy timber framing at the east gable end. This was done by the Jacksons shortly after they purchased the property in 1974. The window on the west gable wall (Figure 14) is a later alteration likely associated with this re-framing. [Drummond: Similarly, reconstruction of the northwest corner foundation in concrete block may have been associated with reframing the west end gable wall.]

Many of the vertical siding boards do not look weathered enough for an old barn. The front (south) façade was partially resided by the Jacksons shortly after they purchased the property in 1974. Some of the original boards on the east side of the front façade were replaced in 2016. The replaced boards had older square nails. Some older-looking siding covered by the lean-to addition on the north wall has the weathering one would expect in a barn that has stood for over a century. [Drummond: Square nails are evident on the original plank siding on the north wall beneath the modern lean-to addition.]

The two original interior bents that separate the mows have some alterations, with some pieces, such as corner braces and studs, removed (Figures 23, 24). The girts are low. [Drummond: The bent on the east side of the threshing floor has been altered with the removal of the lower girt and the repositioning (now lower) of the northern end of the middle girt (shown as red circle in Figure 24). This framing of the interior bents with three girts, one being set decidedly low, is uncommon, at least to other barns examined in Caledon.]



**Figures 23 and 24:** Barn interior with yellow stars indicating locations of some removed girt studs and corner braces. The red arrow indicates where a mortise for a removed lower girt has been covered with planks. The red circle indicates repositioning of the north end of the middle girt. (Source: Town of Caledon)

## Foundation

The stone foundation provided stabling for livestock. The stonework of the foundation is composed of small rubble and does not look like the work of a highly skilled stonemason. The person(s) that laid up the stonework used dressed red sandstone to create more regular, solid corners than was possible with the small stones used elsewhere in the walls. The red sandstone had the added feature as decorative quoining (Figures 20 and 21). [Drummond: The current owners noted there are a number of sandstone flagstones used as pathways near the house. Several red sandstone quarries were operating in the vicinity of this property in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, making it locally available as of the 1860s and more readily available as of the late 1870s when the larger quarries became active after the arrival of the railways. Its use is common to village houses and outbuildings in the area, as well as barns.]

Interestingly, the foundation walls have been built atop/around some particularly large boulders, as evidenced on the southwest corner and along the west end wall (Figure 20). [Drummond: No boulders were evident during an examination of the other corners, however there are several large boulders along the base of the west foundation wall.]

The south side of the foundation, where the stable entrance or entrances would have been, shows some changes (Figures 17 and 18). The repairs using concrete block were done by the Jacksons after 1974. The largest doorway looks like it has been widened and the stonework repaired with



concrete block to create a new straight edge. [Drummond: The owner confirmed this doorway has been widened and raised in height.] Where there is a window to the right of the double door, it appears that this was originally a single door. [Drummond: This is a repair of a collapsing stone wall beneath the window.] The door to the right of that appears to have been diminished in width and the space infilled with concrete block. [Drummond: this may also be an original door width with block used to repair the wall.]

## **Conclusion**

Overall, notwithstanding the repairs and alterations that have been made to the bank barn at 552 The Grange Sideroad, this building retains much of its original character even with renewed siding. The replacement barnboard is appropriate to the style and period of the barn and represents the kind of on-going maintenance that would have been done historically, rather than the modern approach of applying metal siding.

In considering the documentary research for this property, this modest bank barn with its uncommon saltbox form and red sandstone quoins could date from the Aaron Teeter period of ownership, 1875-1881. The lean-to on the north side of the building (Figure 15) is a modern addition and does not follow the traditional placement of a lean-to on an Ontario barn. The window on the west gable wall (Figure 14) is also a later alteration.

### **5.2.2 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION OF BARN**

Based on the findings of George Duncan, supplemented with documentary research not available to him, the same chronology of ownership applied to estimating the date of construction for the dwelling is applicable to the construction of the barn.

Duncan's observation that "a gable-roofed barn with a saltbox profile is the result of a lean-to addition being made to one entire wall of the original structure, or it is an original feature of a Pennsylvania-German/Swiss German bank barn with a forebay that provides an overhang" endorses the design influence of either George Baker or Aaron Teeter, both of American-German ancestry. The small scale of the barn at 50 ft. by 36 ft. suggests it was built to suit the size of the 50-acre parcel of land first severed from the homestead farm in 1869/1872. The barn could have been built by or for Gordon Baker about 1872, or by or for Aaron Teeter. The 1877 map of Caledon Township does not plot barns or outbuildings, but it is reasonable to assume that the property's occupant would have required a barn from the start.

The co-existence of square nails and wire nails on a barn is not unusual. Sometimes this is due to the original square nails rusting away and loosening the boards, and the farmer re-securing the boards with the nailing technology most available at the date of the re-nailing. In this instance, square nails are evident on the oldest siding beneath the modern lean-to on the north side of the barn, and wire nails are evident where the original siding has been replaced with new boards.



**Figure 25: Above:** Barn, view of structural post and floor joists within lower stable area, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 26: Below:** Hardware on stable door, south façade, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)







**Figure 27: Above:** Barn, looking west at interior bents. Note pole rafters and original roof sheathing, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 28: Below: Left:** Barn, showing framing of west end in dimensional lumber, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 29: Below: Right:** Barn, looking east at timber framing of salt box extension, southeast corner, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)





**Figure 30: Above:** Barn, looking north along west end stone foundation wall (left) at concrete block repairs on north foundation wall, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)



**Figure 31: Left:** Barn, looking from centre threshing floor toward southeast corner, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)

**Figure 32: Below:** Barn, looking from centre threshing floor toward southwest corner, June 2021 (Source: Town of Caledon)





### **5.2.3 HISTORIC INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY OF BARN**

The north lean-to was likely added in the 1940s or 1950s to accommodate the first tractor and was rebuilt in 2016. Concrete block repairs to the stone foundation, the replacement of some exterior wall siding (barnboard), a newer west window, changes in stone foundation door openings, the metal sheeted roof, and some structural reframing may mostly date to the period of ownership by the Jacksons, 1974 to 2006. Overall, notwithstanding these repairs and alterations, according to George Duncan, “this building retains much of its original character.” “The replacement barnboard is appropriate to the style and period of the barn and represents the kind of on-going maintenance that would have been done historically, rather than the modern approach of applying metal siding.”

Barns built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in general, are disappearing from the cultural heritage landscape of Ontario. Although this example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century timber frame bank barn is not entirely in original or pristine condition, it holds sufficient historic and structural integrity and authenticity as a vanishing landscape feature to warrant its identification as the principal heritage attribute of this property.

## **5.3 CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE**

### **5.3.1 LANEWAY**

Typical of 19<sup>th</sup> century farmsteads, the dwelling is accessed by a long laneway, in this case, running north/south between the east side of the dwelling and the road allowance. No laneway to the dwelling is plotted on the 1877 map of Caledon Township but it is likely that access was always from The Grange Sideroad, not Shaw’s Creek Road on the west.

### **5.3.2 BLACK WALNUT TREE**

A Black Walnut tree, estimated to be in excess of a century old, is thriving on the east side of the laneway in the front yard of the dwelling.

Black Walnut trees are native to eastern North America. In Ontario, plantings and wild black walnut trees exist from Windsor to southwest Ottawa and are at home along the whole length of the eroded edge of the Bruce Trail. The tree grows best in limestone soil ranging from sand to clay, reaching towering heights and averaging a life span of 150 years. It is prized for its two tone (black and white) lumber. Settlers highly valued the rich tasting nuts and harvested large quantities for overwintering as a food source from trees planted in fruit and nut orchards on their farms. The commonplace harvesting of the nut ended when the easier-cracking Persian walnut trees (also known as English, Californian, or Carpathian) became available in Ontario in the 1930s.

Although no orchard is plotted on the property in the 1877 map of Caledon Township, this tree might have been planted for nut harvesting before the 1930s when the Persian walnut became

readily available. The species would have been a familiar to the Bakers and Teeters as natives of the upper eastern United States.

### 5.3.3 ANALYSIS

It is probable that the dwelling on this property has traditionally been accessed by a north/south laneway from The Grange Sideroad. The Black Walnut tree in the front yard has a cultural heritage association with the pre 1930s period during which farmsteads had fruit and nut bearing trees harvested for a winter food source.

## 5.4 SUMMARY OF DESIGN OR PHYSICAL VALUE

Due to the loss of the historic integrity and authenticity of the dwelling, the design or physical value of this property rests with the c.1870s timber frame bank barn, the laneway, and the Black Walnut tree. The barn is a unique and representative example of a style, type, and expression of a barn suited to a small acreage farm operation in Ontario. Its gable-roofed, saltbox form is uncommon and likely an adaptation of the larger Pennsylvania-German/Swiss German bank barns with a forebay that provides an overhang. It was built c.1872-1876 by or for farmer-carpenter Alexander Gordon Baker or farmer Aaron Teeter, both of American-German ancestry. The dressed, red sandstone quoins in the otherwise basic rubblestone foundation is an example of the use of this locally available material and representative of the importance of the quarrying industry in the southwestern part of Caledon Township at that date. The evolution in the siding, framing, openings, and foundation is typical of the maintenance and repair required to keep these barns serviceable.

The long, north/south laneway between the dwelling and the road allowance, in this case The Grange Sideroad, is typical of a traditional farm lane. The Black Walnut tree in the front yard is representative of the pre 1930s period when this nut bearing species was planted on site for harvest as a winter food source. The species would have been a familiar to the Bakers and Teeters as natives of the upper eastern United States.

## 6.0 CONTEXTUAL VALUE

**O. Regulation 9/06:** The property has contextual value because it,

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

## 6.1 SUMMARY OF CONTEXTUAL VALUE

Contextually, this property is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the rural agricultural



character of this area. It is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings as a 50-acre parcel of land severed in 1869/1872 from the homestead farm of Michael Baker.

## **7.0 CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings of this Report, it is concluded that the property at 552 The Grange Sideroad holds sufficient cultural heritage value or interest in the three categories of O. Reg. 9/06 (Design or Physical; Historical or Associative; and Contextual) to be designated under s.29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The principal heritage attributes of the property are the barn, the laneway to/from The Grange Sideroad, and Black Walnut tree in the front yard.

## **8.0 STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

The property at 552 The Grange Sideroad is 51.36 acres within the southwest half of Lot 6, Concession 5, WHS, Caledon Township, Town of Caledon.

The historical or associative value of this property is found in its direct association from 1818 to at least 1891 with the Michael Baker and Aaron Teeter families. This parcel of land roots to a 200-acre free grant of land in 1818 to Michael Baker, who was the son of a United Empire Loyalist. Baker was both among the first settlers to arrive in Caledon Township and among the first settlers to be of American-German culture in the township. As a daughter of a United Empire Loyalist, in 1818 his spouse Catharine (Frank) received the abutting Lot 7 as a free grant. Typical of settler families and particularly of those with Germanic ancestry, the Bakers and their sons clustered their separate households within these shared lots. In 1869, the elderly Michael allocated the southwest 50 acres of Lot 6 to his son, Alexander Gordon Baker. At 50 acres, this was a small farm by Ontario standards of 100 to 200 acres and was likely secondary to the needs of this youngest member of the second generation of Bakers in Caledon Township. Gordon sold in 1875 to Aaron Teeter. The Teeters also were early settlers of American-German ancestry in Caledon and nearby Erin Township. The design of the c.1872-1876 bank barn on the property exhibits the Germanic influence of its owner, possibly builder, Gordon Baker or Aaron Teeter.

Due to the loss of the historic integrity and authenticity of the dwelling, the design or physical value of this property rests with the c.1870s timber frame bank barn, the laneway, and the Black Walnut tree. The barn is a unique and representative example of a style, type, and expression of a barn suited to a small acreage farm operation in Ontario. Its gable-roofed, saltbox form is uncommon and likely an adaptation of the larger Pennsylvania-German/Swiss German bank barns with a forebay that provides an overhang. It was built c.1872-1876 by or for farmer-carpenter Alexander Gordon Baker or farmer Aaron Teeter, both of American-German ancestry. The dressed, red sandstone quoins in the otherwise basic rubblestone foundation is an example of the use of this locally available material and representative of the importance of the quarrying industry in the southwestern part of Caledon Township at that date. The evolution in the siding,

framing, openings, and foundation is typical of the maintenance and repair required to keep these barns serviceable.

The long, north/south laneway between the dwelling and the road allowance, in this case The Grange Sideroad, is typical of a traditional farm lane. The Black Walnut tree in the front yard is representative of the pre 1930s period when this nut bearing species was planted on site for harvest as a winter food source.

Contextually, this property is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the rural agricultural character of this area. It is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings as a 50-acre parcel of land severed in 1869/1872 from the homestead farm of Michael Baker.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

The heritage attributes of this property are the saltbox form, 50 ft. by 36 ft., timber frame bank barn, the laneway, and the Black Walnut tree in the front yard. For the reasons given in the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, the barn, laneway, and Black Walnut tree support the historical or associative, design or physical, and contextual values of this property. The principal characteristics of these attributes are as follows:

#### **Barn**

- Saltbox shape formed by a main, gable roofed section and a lean-to type extension on the south side
- 50 ft. by 36 ft. dimension
- Vertical board siding
- Square nails and vertical board siding evident under the siding of the modern lean-to on the north side
- Medium pitched gable roof
- Wood frame with mortise and tenon joinery and round logs, squared timbers, and dimensional lumber used in the framing
- Plank flooring
- Pole rafters and plank roof sheathing
- All window and door openings related to its function as a barn, including the wood lintels
- Original rubblestone walls and large base boulders
- All red sandstone, notably forming the quoins of the foundation
- Original builder's hardware (hinges, locks, etc.)
- Placement against a natural slope rising to the north

#### **Laneway**

- The existence of a north/south laneway between the east side of the dwelling and The Grange Sideroad road allowance

**Black Walnut Tree**

- The century old Black Walnut tree on the east side of the laneway to The Grange Sideroad, in the front yard of the dwelling

## **SOURCES**

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