

21 Old Mill Road – Encroachment Agreement – Heritage Review

Date:	December 14, 2009
To:	Etobicoke York Community Council
From:	Director, Policy & Research, City Planning Division
Wards:	Ward 5
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide heritage staff comment and information with respect to the legalization of an existing 41.8 square metre encroachment beneath the Old Mill Road right-of-way that currently consists of a pedestrian walkway. The encroachment lands are adjacent to two protected heritage properties, the Old Mill Ruins and the Old Mill Bridge.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact resulting from the approval of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

On November 10, 2009 The Etobicoke York Community Council deferred a report, “21 Old Mill Road – Encroachment Agreement” from the Director, Transportation Services – Etobicoke District and requested that Heritage Preservation Services review the report and submit comments to the January 12, 2010 Etobicoke York Community Council meeting.

The Old Mill Ruins were designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act by Etobicoke City Council under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act on November 14, 1983.

The Old Mill Bridge was designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act by the City of York on August 24, 1987.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The subject property is located adjacent to the reconstructed remains of the Old Mill (Gamble's Mill). The mill ruins, which were incorporated into the Old Mill Inn, were surviving remnants of a significant part of the city's industrial history and European settlement along the Humber River. In the immediate area, the King's Mill, a government owned sawmill that provided lumber to construct the Town of York, was constructed in 1793. Over the next one hundred years a number of mills were built near this location including Gamble's Mill, which was constructed in 1849.

The area of the encroachment is also adjacent to the Humber River which, due to its outstanding human heritage values and the contribution it has made to the development of Canada, was officially designated a Canadian Heritage River on September 24, 1999.

COMMENTS

The location of the encroachment at 21 Old Mill Road is part of a significant cultural heritage landscape that is defined by the site's history, its relationship to the Humber River and extant remnant features of the early 19th century industrial complex. While the lands associated with the Old Mill have undergone changes over time, there are still original features to be found in the landscape, including the original mill race. There is also a high potential for pre-contact and historic archaeological remains to exist adjacent to the Humber River generally.

Heritage Preservation Services staff do not foresee any negative heritage impacts with respect to the legalization of the encroachment. However, given the heritage sensitivity of the lands, the applicant will be advised that any future plans for work within the encroachment lands (including but not limited to any activity requiring soil disturbance) shall be submitted for review of archaeological or other cultural heritage impacts prior to the commencement of work.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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