

Heritage Property Rating System

Meaning of Grades:

“A” properties - are considered to have the highest cultural heritage significance to the City of Burlington and are of the utmost priority for heritage preservation and conservation via designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

“B” properties – are considered to be of high cultural heritage value or interest to the City of Burlington. While “B” rated properties stand out on their own, they are considered of lesser overall significance than “A”s. “B” rated properties may also be candidates for heritage preservation and conservation via designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

“C” properties – are considered to be of “fair” or “good” cultural heritage value or interest to the City of Burlington, contributing to the overall heritage character of a streetscape or neighbourhood. “C” rated properties are important reminders of the past and potential designation of these properties would be considered on a case-by-case basis

“D” properties – are considered to be of “some” or “minimal” cultural heritage value or interest to the City of Burlington. Their cultural heritage significance has often been modified substantially by unsympathetic alterations and/or additions to the structure.

Evaluations of properties are based upon the following criteria:

Architecture – considers: the style of the structure and whether or not it is a rare, unique or early example of a particular architectural style; the construction and whether it is reflective of a quality example of a particular method or material; the age of the structure in the context of the City; the architect and whether she/he was notable; the design and whether it is particularly attractive or unique; and the interior and its condition.

History – considers the historical context of the structure and its relevance to the history of Burlington including; whether it was owned by an individual who made a significant contribution to the City; and/or was the home of a particular and notable event of significance; and/or the context of the structure in terms of the structure illustrating cultural, social, political, military, economic or industrial history.

Environment – considers the contribution the structure makes to the local environment including; contributing to the continuity of the neighbourhood; the site and landscape contributes to the neighbourhood; and whether or not the structure is some form of a local landmark.

Usability – considers also the contextual relationship of the structure to its surroundings including: if the current use of the structure is compatible with surroundings; if the structure can undergo adaptive re-use without affecting the elements of the structure that are significant; if the structure is proposed or can be adapted for public use; if services are available; and if the cost of restoration/re-use is reasonable relative to the cost of new construction.

Integrity – considers the degree to which the structure and site has been altered including: whether the structure occupies its original site; the extent of alterations; and the condition of the structure.

Grading Criteria References:

Kalman, Harold. "Evaluation of Historic Buildings", Queen's Printer: Parks Canada, 1980.