Preliminary Study of the Heritage Character of the Mount Nemo Plateau

Public Consultation Event
February 10, 2014
6:30 pm
Meeting Agenda

• Presentation by Andre Scheinman – Preliminary Study of the Heritage Character of the Mount Nemo Plateau
• Presentation by City Staff – Heritage Tools and Process
• Community Discussion
• Wrap Up & Next Steps
Meeting Purpose

- Describe the research the City has initiated on Mount Nemo
- Outline where we are in the process
- Initiate a community discussion on potential further Study of Mount Nemo
- Collect your initial questions and comments to be shared with Council
Official Plan Review

• 2012: Commencement of OP Review - 5 year review of the city’s Official Plan, a document outlining the land use vision of the city to the year 2021.

• Allows us to revisit policies and conduct studies such as the Preliminary Study of the Heritage Character of the Mount Nemo.

• Guided by provincial and upper tier legislation and regulations, along with local community values.
Rural Summit 2013

Collected ideas and commentary regarding:
  – A vision for the Rural Area
  – The themes and goals that will support the vision for specific elements of the area

Several themes were identified including:
  – Community Cohesiveness
  – Natural Environment
  – Eco Tourism
  – Farming
  – History and Preservation of Built & Natural Heritage
Preliminary Study of the Heritage Character of the Mount Nemo Plateau

• Conducted an assessment of the character and heritage of the Mount Nemo Plateau

• Identified options for the long-term conservation and enhancement of the character and heritage value of Mount Nemo

• Recommended further study to better understand the character and heritage of the Mount Nemo Plateau and how it may be conserved and enhanced (e.g. Heritage Conservation District Study)
### Planning Phases of Heritage Conservation District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary Study</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Conservation District Study</td>
<td>Not Initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Conservation District Plan</td>
<td>Not Initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designation of District</td>
<td>Not Initiated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preliminary Study of the Heritage Character of the Mount Nemo Plateau
View from Walker’s Line
Township Map from County Atlas, 1877
Nature and Culture

• When we think of the Mount Nemo Plateau, we often think of:
  • Escarpment outlier – dramatic landform
  • Forest transition zone
  • Headwaters
  • Habitat for rare and/or endangered species

But also a “culturally modified landscape” since the time of indigenous use/habitation and more obviously since Euro settlement.
Niagara Escarpment Plan

- The particular combination of geological and ecological features along the Niagara Escarpment results in a landscape unequalled in Canada. It is also a source of some of southern Ontario's prime rivers and streams and one of the province's principal outdoor recreation areas.

- The Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act established a planning process to ensure that the area would be protected. From this emerged the Niagara Escarpment Plan which serves as a framework of objectives and policies to strike a balance between development, preservation and the enjoyment of this important resource.
A World Biosphere Reserve (1990)

• The UNESCO concept is actually “man and the biosphere” – promoting the preservation of unique and inspiring landscapes but where humankind also has a place in a long term sustainable relationship built on stewardship, “local community efforts and sound science”.

• **NEC Plan Objective #1:** To protect unique ecologic and historic areas.

• **PPS (2005):** “...significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscape (chl) resources shall be conserved. A **chl** is “a defined geographical area of heritage significance which has been modified by human activities and is valued by the community”. 

[Image]
• Burlington Official Plan Objectives
  – To identify areas of heritage landscape in the City containing heritage buildings, structures, streets, vegetation, and open spaces of architectural or historic significance, whose arrangement represents one or more distinctive cultural processes in the historical use of land.
Salem Cemetery
Nicholas Dent House
Straight lines in curved space -the 1806 ‘single front’ land survey -the 1819 ‘double front’ land survey
‘Colling’ Church
2144 Brittania Road
Historic residence as clubhouse:
Burlington Springs Golf Course
Historic barns now associated with Carlisle Golf Course
2280 No. 2 Side Rd (the Pitcher Homestead)
4065 Guelph Line: now hidden below the raised road bed
The Bruce Trail at Blind Lane
Artifacts of early industrial activity:
Mt. Nemo Conservation Area
View from Mt. Nemo
In experiencing the view nature becomes culture
Heritage Designations: A Land Management Tool

Heritage Designations

– Part IV: Individual Property
– Part V: Heritage Conservation Districts
  (e.g. historic downtown or rural character landscape)
Heritage Conservation Districts

- A **geographically defined area** within a municipality that is noted for its distinct heritage character
- **Designated** under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and managed through a Heritage Conservation District Plan and Guidelines
- Can be identified as a **Cultural Heritage Landscape**
Cultural Heritage Landscapes

• A defined geographical area of heritage significance which has been modified by human activities and is valued by a community.
Examples: Rural Cultural Heritage Landscapes

- Rockside, Caledon
- Blair Village, Cambridge
- Village of Upper Doon, Kitchener
Potential Components of a Heritage Conservation District Study

Future study could include:

– Evidence of Land Use and Traditional Practices
– Built Features or Architecture
– Ecological Features
– Vegetation patterns
– Circulation patterns and spatial organization
– Views and Visual Relationships
Where We Came From...

Staff Direction

Preliminary Study Conducted

Staff Report to D & I Jan 13, 2014

Council Decision: Proceed with Public Consultation

Public Consultation Event

We Are Here

We’re Growing in Place [Burlington’s Official Plan Review]
Where We Are Going

Public Consultation Event

Report to D & I including public input

Council Decision

Commence HCD Process

Public Input Opportunities

No Further Study

Public Input Opportunities

Note: This work program is intended to provide additional detail of the preliminary steps to commencing a HCD Study and was prepared within the context of the HCD Designation Process as outlined in the Ontario Heritage Tool Kit.
We are here

HERITAGE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DESIGNATION PROCESS

Request or Proposal to Designate District

Council Decision: Study Area?
YES
Municipal Heritage Committee consulted
Study Commences

NO
Study does not proceed

Study Findings & Recommendations Council Decision: Proceed with Designation?
YES
Prepare HCD Plan & Guidelines.
Are there provisions in OP for HCD designation?
NO
Official Plan Provisions are developed and adopted

Public Notification & Meeting to consider HCD Plan and Designation bylaw

NO

Council Decision: Designate Area?
YES
Notice of By-law passage:
1. Served on district property owners
2. Served on Ontario Heritage Trust
3. Made public

NO
HCD Plan & bylaw shelved

Objections?
YES
Ontario Municipal Board hearing
Appeal allowed in whole or in part*

NO

District Designated:
1. By-law in effect*
2. HCD plan & guidelines adopted

*NB Bylaw may need to be amended for an appeal allowed “in part”

We’re Growing in Place [Burlington’s Official Plan Review]
# Community Discussion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is your favourite memory of Mount Nemo?</td>
<td>Individually, please write your response on an index card. A staff person will collect the cards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do you value most about Mount Nemo?</td>
<td>As a group at each table, please discuss these questions. Nominate a recorder, to write down comments and to summarize to the larger group at the end of the period.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What sentences or phrases would you use to describe Mount Nemo?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are your questions/comments?</td>
<td>Individually, please write your questions/comments on post-it note and stick to the “Question Wall”, under appropriate category.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Study purpose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Study process &amp; timing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Public input opportunities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Implications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps

• Sign-in sheet and Mt Nemo notice list
• Submit any comments by Feb 18th
  – they will be included in a staff report to Council and posted online at www.burlington.ca
• Stakeholder Consultation Session – TBD
• Report to Council
  – Including the input received tonight