

**THE NORTH WATERLOO REGION BRANCH  
ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVANCY OF ONTARIO  
*NEWSLETTER***

**JULY - AUGUST 2013 volume 9, number 4**

Kitchener, Waterloo & Townships of Wilmot, Woolwich & Wellesley  
Provincial ACO Web Site – [www.arconserv.ca](http://www.arconserv.ca)  
Toronto ACO Office (toll free) 1-877-264-8937  
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**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO**

**North Waterloo Region Branch AGM**

**Guest Speaker:  
Paul Sapounzi**

**Heritage Architect & Partner VG+ Architects (The Ventin Group)**  
*Heritage Interpretation and the Old Don Jail*

**Wednesday June 19  
Rockway Centre  
1404 King Street East, Kitchener  
Time: Short Business Meeting 7 pm; Speaker 7:30 pm**

Paul is an entertaining and dynamic speaker. The Ventin Group has been dedicated to the preservation of built heritage since 1972. Their work includes the Old Toronto (Don) Jail, the Legislative Building at Queen's Park, Governor's House & Gaol, Kitchener, Dominion Public Building, Guelph, Castle Kilbride, Baden and many more.

Originally constructed in 1865, the Old Don Jail is an architectural treasure in the City of Toronto. For over 30 years, the jail sat vacant and unused in the Riverdale neighbourhood. As part of the new Bridgepoint Hospital renewal, the Old Don Jail has new life. The rehabilitation scheme maintains a harmonious balance between the conservation / interpretation of original building fabric and artifacts, and the adaptive re-use of spaces as administrative offices for Bridgepoint Health. As Heritage Architect for the project, Paul will present an overview of VG+ rehabilitation projects and the Don Jail Heritage Interpretation Plan.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME - REFRESHMENTS - BRING A FRIEND**

## NWRB – ACO Newsletter Correction

In the article “*NWRB Placement Student Writes About Her Experience*”, by Jessica Footte, published in the May-June edition of the Newsletter, there was some misinformation printed about the availability of the Kitchener Public Library’s Grace Schmidt Room. The Grace Schmidt Room reopened when the Main Branch opened its doors to the public on March 22, 2013. The GSR continues to be open and available to the public and researchers and welcomes visitors and inquiries. We apologize for any confusion. Editor.

### THE BERLIN FIRE STATION NO. 2 (STUDIOS)

One of the two sites featured on the ACO-NEXTGen tour held Friday March 24, 2013.

Thanks is extended to our hosts Antoinette Rodighiero & Brian Bee,

The former Berlin Fire Station No. 2 is a 3-storey red brick building, built in 1913 - 1914. The fire station was built to serve "busy Berlin's" burgeoning factory and industrial district that was heavily concentrated around the railroad tracks in the northwest section of the city. This area also included a large residential area to the north that included Wellington, Louisa, Shanley, Waterloo Streets. Like many others built in the late 19th and early 20th century in North America, the building hints of an Italianate style. The fire station was built to accommodate horse-drawn pumpers and ladder wagons complete with stables on the ground floor and a hayloft for the

horses' feed above. A fire alarm bell would sound alerting the horses to kick open the swing doors to stand beneath the harnesses that hung from the ceiling to help speed the fireman away to the scene of the fire. The common kitchen was on the ground floor. The large second floor allowed each fireman to have his own room with the highest ranking officer having a corner room with two large windows. The third floor was mainly for storage. Fire Station No. 2 was an active fire station until 1964. After several owners including automotive businesses, Station 2 Studios purchased the building in 2004 for a live/work space.



Fire Hall - Doors Open 2006  
Photo by John Arndt

#### History of Fire Station No. 2 - 318 Duke Street West Kitchener

- May 29, 1913: Henry and William Dunker, carpenter contractors sold the land to the city of Berlin for \$1500.00.
- The building was completed under Chief John Cook's direction and began operating with a staff of four.
- 1913 to 1964: Fire Station No. 2 is active.
- July 1965: Chief Putnam closes No. 2 station and a new one is built on Guelph St., Kitchener.
- 1965: Building is sold into private ownership.
- 1965 to 1972: Used as a storage facility by Electrohome.
- 1972 to 2004: Building becomes home to an auto repair and used car sales lot for different owners spanning over thirty years.
- One owner's wife operated a hair salon on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor during the 1980's.
- 2004: Converted to live/work/studio space by the current owners.

#### Exterior Building details

Italianate features include:

- Arched windows
- Tower roof detail
- Brick pilasters on sides of building and tower.

#### Other exterior features are:

- Fan lites over windows and doors
- Brick corbelling at foundation and eaves
- Remnants of the fire alarm call box system on the gable end of the building over the main entrance.
- Neighbourhood fire alarm boxes, strategically placed throughout the area, were linked to this alarm box.

## WATERLOO CITY COUNCIL APPROVES LISTING OF 75 ALLEN STREET EAST ON MUNICIPAL HERITAGE REGISTER

At the Monday May 27 meeting of the City of Waterloo Council, Michelle Lee, the vice-chair of the Municipal Heritage Committee, placed the following recommendation before Waterloo City Councillors. *That Council approves the property located at 75 Allen Street East, known as the former St. Louis School be listed on the Municipal Heritage Register as a non-designated property of cultural value or interest.* This recommendation, if approved by council, would permit a more thorough assessment of the property's cultural heritage values should the sale and redevelopment of the property result in a demolition permit application.

John Arndt, a delegate from ACO-NWRB, urged Council to **designate the property under the Ontario Heritage Act** arguing that the Listing of the property was only a half-way measure. Designation would provide much more protection to the building.

Waterloo City Council approved the Listing of 75 Allen Street East as a NON-DESIGNATED property on the Municipal Heritage Register. ACO-NWRB is happy about this decision and congratulates the Waterloo Municipal Heritage Committee for the research and work that they put into this recommendation. The former St. Louis School is protected to a degree.

### What is the Municipal Heritage Register?

It is an official list of properties identified by a municipality as being of cultural value or interest. It includes individually designated properties (Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act); properties in the Heritage Conservation districts (Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act); and NON-DESIGNATED properties that MAY have cultural heritage value to the community.

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**In her presentation, Michelle Lee defined extremely well the differences between Listing on the Municipal Heritage Register (MHR) as a non-designated property and as a designated property.**

### **NON-DESIGNATED PROPERTY ON MHR**

No protection is afforded under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Property owners do not need to obtain Council approval to alter heritage attributes.

City Council has more time to decide whether or not to approve demolition application (from 10-20 to 60 days).

VS

### **DESIGNATED PROPERTY**

Heritage attributes are protected under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Property owners must obtain Council approval before altering a heritage attribute.

City Council has legal authority to refuse an application that will adversely affect the property's heritage attributes.

## **Doors Open Waterloo Region**

Saturday, September 21, 2013,

Discover the secret places of Waterloo Region! Free admission, children's activities, music, drama presentations, walking tours and other special events (check our website).

Pick up our 2013 map & guide at libraries, museums and tourism offices across Waterloo Region from July to September, or in *The Waterloo Region Record* on Saturday, September 14.  
web site [www.regionofwaterloo.ca/doorsopen](http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/doorsopen); email [doorsopen@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:doorsopen@regionofwaterloo.ca)

FREE heritage and architecture tours.

**Most sites open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

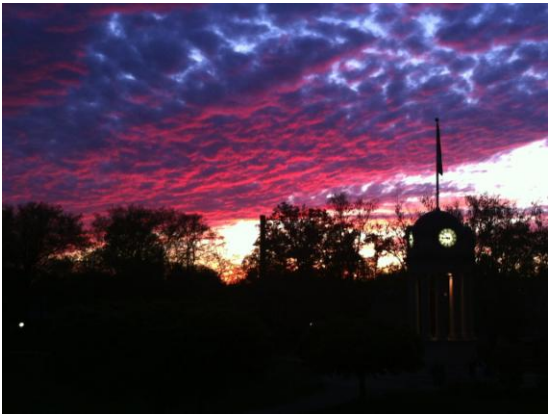


PHOTO CREDIT HAROLD RUSSELL

As Harold Russell stepped out of Kitchener City Hall after the May 15th NWRB meeting on *Rockway ; a Celebration*, he was dazzled by the beautiful sky above, and immediately snapped a number of photos two of which are reprinted here. Thanks Harold for sharing these beautiful photos with us. You were at the right place at the right time!

**Our heritage bridges are important to us. A letter from Barbara Veale of the Grand River Conservation project concerns a recently completed publication which is now available.**

**Arch, Truss and Beam: Grand River Watershed Heritage Bridge Inventory**

The Grand River Conservation Authority, the Government of Ontario and the Heritage Resources Centre at the University of Waterloo recently completed an update of the Heritage Bridge inventory for the Grand River watershed. The goal of this study was to support the designation of the Grand River and its four tributaries, identify and encourage the listing or designation of bridges with significant cultural heritage value under the Ontario Heritage Act, and promote the unique character and tourism potential of these structures located in each watershed municipality.

A hard copy of the final report entitled Arch, Truss & Beam: The Grand River Watershed Heritage Bridge Inventory will be hand delivered to your municipality by your GRCA member or by courier (some of you may have already received it). A digital version is also available on the GRCA website at <http://www.grandriver.ca/index/document.cfm?Sec=23&Sub1=101&Sub2=2>

A total of 678 bridges were assessed against the criteria used to determine heritage value outlined in Ontario Regulation 09/06 under the Ontario Heritage Act, with 167 deemed to have heritage value.

While this newest report is more comprehensive than previous ones, it is important to note that it is not intended to take the place of environmental and municipal planning processes. It is a first step in evaluating the watershed's heritage bridges and is not a definitive and exhaustive list of all existing heritage bridges or an account of each structure's cultural heritage value. Over time, the heritage bridge inventory will continue to grow as further research on the watershed's bridges is carried out.

It is hoped this will be a useful tool to municipal planners and engineers, educators, tourism operators, and interested individuals. Please share the link with municipal staff and any others you feel may have an interest.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lindsay Benjamin, Heritage Resources Centre, University of Waterloo at 519-888-4567 ext. 36921 or Email: [lebenjam@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:lebenjam@uwaterloo.ca)  
Yours very truly,

Barbara  
Barbara Veale, PhD, MCIP, RPP  
Co-ordinator of Policy Planning and Partnerships  
Grand River Conservation Authority



**BLACKBRIDGE ROAD BRIDGE,  
CAMBRIDGE (HESPELER)**



**HARTMAN BRIDGE, NEW HAMBURG**

Photos by John Arndt