

Notice of Intention to Pass a By-law to Designate

The following property to be of Cultural Heritage Value and Interest Pursuant to the Provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act (R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18)

Take Notice that the Council of Corporation of The Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands intends to pass a by-law under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18, to designate the following lands to be of cultural heritage value and interest:

117 Raison Road (PT LT 7 CON 13 LANSDOWNE PT 1 TO 3 28R5843; LEEDS/THOUSAND ISLANDS), known as the Washburn House:

The Washburn House at 117 Raison Road is located on Lot 7, Concession 13, in the former Township of Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne, now part of the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville. The property is on the east side of Raison Road between County Road 42 and Black Church Road, just south of Soperton. The property is approximately 30 hectares in size and contains a two-storey sandstone house constructed between 1841 and 1861 with a later 20th century rear addition, and 19th outbuildings. The house is accessed via a gravel driveway off Raison Road and is surrounded by fields and partially forested areas. The Washburn House has design and physical value as an example of a well-preserved vernacular mid-19th century house characterized by Georgian form and proportions while incorporating Classical stylistic elements. The two-storey massing on an L-shape plan with a side gable roof and a symmetrical three-bay façade, are hallmarks of the Georgian style, as are the deep wooden eaves which include a cornice, frieze board and returns on the gable ends. The Classical influence can be seen in the centrally located pediment above the entrance, which contains a round arched window opening with casement windows. The glazing pattern on the side lights and transom surrounding the original entrance opening imbues a Greek Revival expression, as do the interior two-panel wooden doors. This blending of styles illustrates how rural builders in Ontario adapted fashionable architectural features to suit local tools, materials, and craftsmanship. Notably, the presence of wooden ledger boards on all three principal elevations suggests that a three-sided verandah was originally intended. Such a feature would have enhanced the house's visual prominence and introduced an element of Regency style architecture. The property has associative value due to its direct connection with the Washburn family, early settlers in the former Township of Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne. Stephen Washburn Jr. (1770–1813) emigrated to the area in the 1790s and settled with his family on Lots 1 and 2, Concession 13. A prominent early resident, Stephen was appointed as one of five individuals tasked with selecting the site for a new courthouse in Brockville in 1808 and was made a magistrate in 1810. The area around the intersection of present-day Washburn Road and County Road 42 became known as "Washburn Corners". The property has contextual value as it plays an important role in defining, maintaining, and supporting the historic rural character of Raison Road. The house's vernacular architectural expression, its prominent siting on a

rise of land at an angle to Raison Road with a generous setback from the road, and the surrounding open fields and partially forested areas all contribute to the visual cohesion and historic integrity of the rural landscape. Its heritage attributes include the two-storey massing on a L-shape plan with side gable roof, coursed rubble sandstone construction, various window, sill, shutter and door architectural features and the house's siting on a rise of land, its alignment at an angle to Raison Road and surrounding fields and partially forested areas.

Additional information, including a full description of the reasons for designation is available upon request from Lindsay Lambert, Senior Planner, Planning & Development at 613-659-2415, extension 226, or at seniorplanner@townshipleeds.on.ca during regular business hours, or by visiting the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands website at www.leeds1000islands.ca/living-here/heritage-and-culture

Any notice of objection to this notice of intention to designate the property, setting out the reason for objection and all relevant facts, must be served upon the Township Clerk within 30 days of the first publication of this notice.

Dated at the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands

This 21st day of May, 2026

Michelle Hannah, Clerk

Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands