

MEETING DATE 29/07/2019 (mm/dd/yyyy)

SUBJECT Heritage Advisory Committee - Dease Pool Designation

SUMMARY

Memorandum from Mr. A. Cotter, Chair - Heritage Advisory Committee, dated June 28, 2019, containing two motions relative to Heritage Designation of Dease Pool.

OPTION #1

With respect to the memorandum from Mr. A. Cotter, Chair - Heritage Advisory Committee, dated June 28, 2019 we recommend that the Heritage Advisory Committee proceed with the designation of the property known as Dease Pool for its cultural and heritage significance as defined by Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

OPTION #2

With respect to the memorandum from Mr. A. Cotter, Chair - Heritage Advisory Committee, dated June 28, 2019, we recommend that as an alternative to designation maintaining a similar community use of the Dease Pool property be explored;

AND THAT the site be commemorated with a plaque.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Memorandum from Mr. A. Cotter, Chair - Heritage Advisory Committee - June 28 2019

TO: Members of Council
FROM: Andrew Cotter, Chair Heritage Advisory Committee
DATE: June 28, 2019
SUBJECT: Dease Pool – Heritage Designation

The Heritage Advisory Committee passed the following resolution on May 23, 2019:

MOVED BY: Mr. L. Hebert
SECONDED BY: Ms. J. Bonazzo

WHEREAS there has been a pool located at 370 Vickers Street North continuously since 1911;

AND WHEREAS the pool site has served the community since that date and has been a significant asset to the community;

THEREFORE upon completing the evaluation worksheet found in Appendix A of the Dease Pool Property Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report, which found that the property has low design or physical value, intermediate historical or associative value and high contextual value;

THAT the Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that the property known as Dease Pool be designated as a heritage property for its cultural and heritage significance as defined by Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Ms. J. Bonazzo
SECONDED BY: Ms. H. Strobl

WHEREAS there has been a pool located at 370 Vickers Street North continuously since 1911;

AND WHEREAS the pool site has served the community since that date and has been a significant asset to the community;

The Heritage Advisory Committee recommends as an alternative to designation;

THAT maintaining a similar community use for the property should be explored;

AND THAT commemoration of the site, including a plaque, should be undertaken using the research uncovered in the Dease Pool Property Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report.

CARRIED

The Heritage Advisory Committee put the Dease Pool property through its established Cultural Heritage Property Evaluation System to assess its potential for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act. Under Ontario Regulation 9/06 a property can be designated if it meets one or more of the following criteria of cultural heritage value:

1. It has design or physical value;
2. It has historical or associative value;
3. It has contextual value.

The Heritage Advisory Committee's evaluation concluded that Dease Pool should be considered for designation because it scored high on contextual value and intermediate on historical or associative value. It scored low on design or physical value. The overall score of 93 out of a possible 180 points indicates that it should be considered for designation.

The Dease Pool Property - Cultural Heritage Evaluation Summary Report is attached. The full report is available through the Office of the City Clerk.

Please consider the following motions at the July 29, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting.

With respect to the memorandum from Mr. A. Cotter, Chair Heritage Advisory Committee, dated June 28, 2019 we recommend that the Heritage Advisory Committee proceed with the designation of the property known as Dease Pool for its cultural and heritage significance as defined by Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

With respect to the memorandum from Mr. A. Cotter, Chair Heritage Advisory Committee, dated June 28, 2019 we recommend that as an alternative to designation maintaining a similar community use the Dease Pool property be explored; and that the site be commemorated with a plaque.

Sincerely,



Andrew Cotter
Chair Heritage Advisory Committee

Cc: Norm Gale, City Manager
John Hannam, City Clerk
Krista Power, Deputy City Clerk



Thunder Bay Heritage Advisory Committee

Dease Pool Property

Cultural Heritage Evaluation Summary Report

(Complete report is available through the Office of The City Clerk)



Figure 1 Dease Pool ca.1911 TBA 1991-1-259

Prepared for:
City of Thunder Bay Heritage Advisory Committee
June 2019



Executive Summary

Thunder Bay City Council passed a motion to close Dease Pool at the December 10, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting, this motion was ratified at the City Council meeting on December 17, 2018. Local citizens, concerned with the closure, began petitioning city council and also appeared before the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) at the Thursday, January 24, 2019 meeting.

At that meeting, HAC agreed to put the Dease Pool property through its established Cultural Heritage Property Evaluation System to evaluate the pool and further assess its heritage value. A sub-committee was struck to complete this evaluation for potential designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The Dease Pool property had previously been identified as having heritage value and was listed on City of Thunder Bay's Heritage Register in 2010.

Sub-committee members have met and completed their assessment of the Dease Pool property using the established Cultural Heritage Property Evaluation System. The sub-committee further developed this report to provide the "Results of Evaluation", identify applicable heritage policies, and provide summarizations of geographic and historical context of the area including Dease Pool itself.

The checklist completed by the sub-committee indicated that the Dease Pool property warrants consideration for heritage designation. As the Dease Pool property met at least one criterion outlined in the Cultural Heritage Property Evaluation System (Feb. 21, 2019), it is eligible for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. As the values exhibited by the property are primarily associative and have limited ties to the design or physicality of the structure there are few physical heritage attributes that express the value of the property. A Statement of Cultural Heritage Value has been prepared. Therefore, the following recommendations should be considered to determine the future of the property:

1. Maintaining a similar community use for the property should be explored;
2. Commemoration of the site, including a plaque, should be undertaken using the research uncovered in the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report;
3. Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report should be submitted to City Administration after ratification by the Heritage Advisory Committee.



Site Description and Historical Context – Dease Pool Property

Site Description

The Dease Pool property is a .436 acre of land located in southern downtown core in the McKellar Ward, formerly known as the City of Fort William, in the current city of Thunder Bay.

The property borders the east side of Vickers Street North and the south side of Dease Street.

The area around the property is predominantly residential in nature.

Dease Park is located north of the Dease Pool property.

Address:

370 Vickers Street North,
Thunder Bay, Ontario

Legal Description:

PLAN 210 LOT 340 TO 347

Roll Number:

5804 040146 001

Name of Property Owner:

City of Thunder Bay

Year Built: 1911

Style: Public Swimming Pool

Landscape Category: Defined

Access: Unrestricted

Current Land Use: Open Space Zone



Figure 2 Map showing location of Dease Pool property



Figure 3 Aerial view of Dease Pool property 1981 TBA 2013-07-2693



Evaluation of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Taking into consideration the historical research and reports, a sub-committee of the Heritage Advisory Committee evaluated the Dease Pool property using the scoring system previously created by HAC known as the Cultural Heritage Property Evaluation System, revised October 2016. This evaluation system was established to determine Cultural Heritage Value or Interest as set in O. Reg. 9/06. The sub-committee evaluated the Dease Pool property, creating the basis for this report, during meetings held March 8 and March 14, 2019. The report is a consensus based on analyses of 3 sub-committee members. (L. Abthorpe, Heritage Researcher, acted as secretary for the sub-committee and did not submit towards the evaluation.) Based on the evaluations of the sub-committee, L. Abthorpe produced this evaluation report. A site visit was completed on April 18, 2019.

Design/Physical Value

CRITERIA	EVALUATION	RATIONALE
STYLE: A notable, rare, unique, early or typical example of a particular architectural style, type or convention.	Good example	Outdoor pool few of which still survive in that style in the community. Outdoor pool – utilitarian.
CONSTRUCTION: Notable, rare, unique or early example of a particular material or method of construction.	Of no particular interest	Nothing significant to note of material, engineering design in regards to pool and associated buildings.
DESIGN: A particularly attractive or unique building based on artistic merit, design uniqueness, composition, craftsmanship or details.	Fair or poor	Functional, no decorative elements, alterations to site, original wooden structures replaced with 1950's structures.
ARCHITECT: Notable, rare, unique or early example of work by architect or builder of renown.	Of no particular interest	No known connections to anyone of significance.
ALTERATIONS: Has suffered little alteration and retains most of its original materials and design features.	Many changes but sympathetic to original property/building	Wooden buildings replaced. Replaced with cement block – changing facility same purpose. Original character changed. Filtration plant added in 1962.
CONDITION: Current condition and potential for enduring or improving.	Good	“Significant rehabilitation work is required” according to TBT Engineering report 17-190. Buildings are in better condition than pool and decking. The pool is still usable and was operational during the 2018 season.



Historical Associative Value

CRITERIA	EVALUATION	RATIONALE
AGE: Comparatively old in the context of the community.	Built between 1901-1930	Built beginning in 1910 and opened for its first season in 1911. Has served the community continuously as a public swimming pool since 1911.
PERSON(S)/GROUP, INSTITUTION: Associated with a person, group, organization or institution that has made a significant contribution to the community, province or country.	Person/group/institution of primary importance loosely connected or of secondary importance intimately connected with the property.	Board of Education brought forward to City Council. Board of Education consisted of important members of the community. Examples: Community committee formed (Swimming Pool Committee) with members of Board of Education, Separate School Board, Board of Trade and members of City Council.
EVENT: Associated with an event or movement that has made a significant contribution to the community, province or country.	Event of primary importance intimately connected with the property/building.	The Board of Education presented to City Council in the fall of 1909 the need for a swimming pool and swimming lessons. "necessity of a public swimming pool to be constructed and maintained jointly by the council and the Board of Education....it was advisable to place swimming in the curriculum of the public schools in the hope of eliminating the risk of drowning accidents". The Daily Times Journal, Fort William, Oct. 13, 1909
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Property/building illustrates a significant phase in the development of the community or a major change or turning point in its history.	Very good example	Major recreational and skill developed. Community came together to solve an issue. Development of the pool led to further community development.
ARCHAEOLOGY: Archaeological resources are confirmed to be in the site and are of importance to the community, province or nation.	Fair or poor	none



Contextual Value

CRITERIA	EVALUATION	RATIONALE
CONTINUITY: Building represents a significant contribution to the continuity of the streetscape.	High significance	Associated with Dease Park next door. Character of the neighbourhood residential – residential area continued to grow after pool was built. Pool was built due to community effort. Pool saved for closing by the community in the late 1970’s. Current effort within the community to save the pool once again. Community continues to associate and interest high in keeping.
SETTING: Property/building represents a significant contribution to the identity of the streetscape.	High significance	Significantly contributes to the identity of the neighbourhood.
LANDMARK: A particularly important visual landmark.	A conspicuous and familiar site in the context of the neighbourhood	This facility is an important landmark for the neighbourhood and entire city.
SITE: Occupies original site and property.	On original site and property	Site use has not changed. The only development to happen at this site.

Results of Evaluation

The evaluation completed has determined that **Dease Pool property does have cultural heritage value and is worthy of Designation** based upon the criteria found in O. Reg. 9/06. Therefore, a Statement of Cultural Heritage Value has been prepared.



Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Dease Pool Property, 370 Vickers Street North, Thunder Bay

Dease Pool property is an outdoor public swimming pool located at the corner of Vickers Street North and Dease Street in the former city of Fort William now the city of Thunder Bay.

The Dease Pool property's cultural heritage value lies mostly in its context within the community. In 1909, the Fort William Board of Education appeared before City Council to discuss the necessity of a public swimming pool in order that swimming become part of the public school curriculum, with the goal of eliminating drowning incidents in local waterways. By June of 1910, the established Swimming Pool Committee which included members of City Council, the Board of Trade, the Board of Education and the Separate School Board, began construction of a swimming pool in Fort William. In order to move forward with the project right away, forty citizens guaranteed \$10,000 by each signing a \$250 bond enabling the City to secure funds from a bank until such time as the debenture passed by by-law.

Dease Pool was completed and opened to the public in July 1911. The new pool became very popular very quickly and has remained so over the years. Threat of closure in the late 1970's faced strong objection from the surrounding community, which fought successfully to keep Dease Pool open along with the commitment to renovate.

Marking 107 years of age in 2018, Dease Pool property is the longest surviving public pool in the city of Thunder Bay. The original footprint of the pool remains unchanged, though in 1983 a fiberglass coating was added to the pool's concrete floor and retaining walls. Dease Pool property is a significant landmark within the surrounding neighbourhood and has continuously served as a summer meeting place for many local youngsters and their families. The property has value for its social function.



Conclusions and Recommendations

As the Dease Pool property met at least one criterion outlined in the Cultural Heritage Property Evaluation System (Feb. 21, 2019), it is eligible for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. As the values exhibited by the property are primarily associative and have limited ties to the design or physicality of the structure there are few physical heritage attributes that express the value of the property. A Statement of Cultural Heritage Value has been prepared.

The associative value of the Dease Pool property derives from its use by the community for recreation purposes since the property began development in 1910. The contextual value of the property derives from the fact that there has been a pool associated with this property for the use by the community since the property began development in 1910. There is limited heritage design or physical value in the structures that currently exist on the property.

Using the Evaluation Tool, this property hit a high score in contextual value and an intermediate score in associative value.

Therefore, the following recommendations should be considered to determine the future of the property:

1. Maintaining a similar community use for the property should be explored;
2. Commemoration of the site, including a plaque, should be undertaken using the research uncovered in the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report;
3. Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report should be submitted to City Administration after ratification by the Heritage Advisory Committee.



Appendix A – Evaluation Worksheet

CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

1. Design/Physical Value

Possible Score

Awarded Score

Style	10	7	4	0	1-10	4
Construction	10	7	4	0	1-10	0
Design	10	7	4	0	1-10	0
Architect	10	7	4	0	1-10	0
Alterations	10	7	4	0	1-10	4
Condition	10	7	4	0	1-10	4
Sub-total (1-60):						12

Score: 41-60 = High, 21-40 = Intermediate, 0-20 = Low

2. Historical/Associative Value

Possible Score

Awarded Score

Age	12	8	4	0	1-12	8
Person(s)/Group/Institution	12	8	4	0	1-12	8
Event	12	8	4	0	1-12	12
Community Development	12	8	4	0	1-12	8
Archaeology	12	8	4	0	1-12	0
Sub-total (1-60):						36

Score: 41-60 = High, 21-40 = Intermediate, 0-20 = Low

3. Contextual Value

Possible Score

Awarded Score

Continuity	15	10	5	0	1-15	10
Setting	15	10	5	0	1-15	10
Landmark	15	10	5	0	1-15	10
Site	15	10	5	0	1-15	15
Sub-total (1-60):						45

Score: 41-60 = High, 21-40 = Intermediate, 0-20 = Low

Total Score (1-180):			93
# of Total Placings:	HIGH	INTERMEDIATE	LOW
	1	1	1

Evaluation: use 1

90+ = Designate

or 1 HIGH or 2 INTERMEDIATE = Designate

45 – 89 = List

or 1 INTERMEDIATE = List

Under 45 = No action

or 3 LOW = No action