

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE

120 Shade Street and 40 Marion Way Property Description

The subject property is located at 120 Shade Street and 40 Marion Way in Cambridge, Ontario (legal description is Plan D8 LOT 62 and LOT 63 City of Cambridge).

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Soper Park is approximately 52 acres in size and is one of the oldest parks in not just Cambridge, but in the Region of Waterloo. The land was acquired by the Town of Galt who purchased 52 acres of land from dairy farmer, William Jackson. In his honour, the new park was named Jackson Park in 1904. In late 1904, the Town of Galt hired Frederick Todd, Canada's first landscape architect, to submit a design to transform the farmland into a proper park. Several delays including the Great War and a lack of funding available to undertake Todd's recommendations, stalled the project completely by 1918. In 1920, Dr. Augustus Soper, who lived adjacent to the Park on Dundas Street gave the Town of Galt \$10,000 toward the refurbishment of the Park. In honour of his donation, the park was renamed Soper Park in early 1921.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key heritage attributes that embody the historic value of Soper Park include:

- The connection to East Galt dairy farmer, William Jackson, who sold the Town of Galt 52 acres in total between 1901 and 1903 to create Jackson Park;
- The connection to Dr. Augustus Soper, who provided the Town of Galt with \$10,000 to refurbish the park in 1919 whereby the park was renamed in his honour;
- The connection to famed Canadian landscape architect Frederick G. Todd, whose partial recommendations were adopted in 1920 for refurbishing Soper Park; and
- For being one of Cambridge's oldest public parks.

Key heritage attributes that embody the architectural value of Soper Park include:

- The design, width, length and height of the large stone bridge arch over the Mill Creek beneath Dundas Street, and including the Mill Creek on either side of the arch;
- The design, width, length and height of the small stone bridge arch beneath Dundas Street east of the Mill Creek stone bridge arch and including the pathway on either side of the arch;

- The size, shape, materials and placement of the ship anchor near the parking lot off Marion Way.
- The size, shape and design of the four stone and mortar pillars with their date/name plaques located at the entrance to the park at Marion Way off Dundas Street;
- The width, length, design and materials of Marion Way from Dundas Street to Elgin Street; and
- The length, undulation and curvature of the walking paths throughout the park.

Key heritage attributes that embody the contextual value of Soper Park include:

- The views and vistas of the park from the bridge on Dundas Street;
- The views and vistas of the park terminating at Shade Street beside the Galt Arena;
- The views and vistas of the park from Elgin Street; and
- The views and vistas of the park from the Gore Mutual Building at 252 Dundas Street.