



PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

9.2.1

**Halifax Regional Council  
September 13, 2005**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Stephanie Parsons  
for Tom Creighton, Chair  
Heritage Advisory Committee

**DATE:** September 9, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Case H00169 - Application for Registration of Beechville United Baptist Church & Cemetery

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**ORIGIN**

Heritage Advisory Committee Meetings June 25, 2003, May 25, 2005, June 29, 2005.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**The Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that Regional Council:**

1. Set the date of October 18, 2005 for a Heritage Hearing to provide consideration for the registration of Beechville United Baptist Church & Cemetery, 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville.
2. Approve the registration of Beechville United Baptist Church & Cemetery, 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville, under the HRM Heritage Property Program as a Heritage Site.

**BACKGROUND**

See staff reports to Heritage Advisory Committee dated June 29, 2005 and June 25, 2003.

See Regional Council Information Staff Report dated May 4, 2004 and Heritage Advisory Committee Regional Council Report dated July 8, 2005.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

See Heritage Advisory Committee Staff Report dated June 29, 2005.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**ALTERNATIVES**

There are no alternatives to be considered for Heritage Registrations.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Heritage Advisory Committee Staff Report dated June 29, 2005.
2. Heritage Site Evaluation Criteria.
3. Minute Extract Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting June 29, 2005.
4. Letter dated April 6, 2005 Beechville Community Heritage Association.
5. Regional Council Information Report May 4, 2004.
6. Regional Council Extract of Minutes August 26, 2003 & letter dated August 25, 2003 from Lovett Lake Holdings Limited.
7. Regional Council Committee Report July 8, 2003 and Council Extract of Minutes.

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Stephanie Parsons, Legislative Assistant, 490-6519.

Attachment  
1.

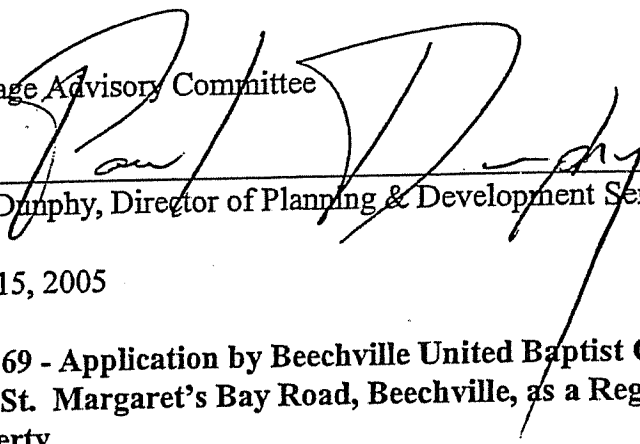


PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

Heritage Advisory Committee  
June 29, 2005

To: Heritage Advisory Committee

Submitted by:

  
Paul Dunphy, Director of Planning & Development Services

Date:

June 15, 2005

Subject:

H00169 - Application by Beechville United Baptist Church to consider  
1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville, as a Registered Heritage  
Property.

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#### **ORIGIN**

An application by Beechville United Baptist Church, Beechville, to consider the Beechville United Baptist Church and Cemetery as a municipally registered heritage property.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that should the Beechville United Baptist Church and Cemetery score more than 50 points, the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend to Regional Council that this property be registered under the HRM Heritage Property Program (Map 1).

## **BACKGROUND**

In 2003 an application was made by the Beechville United Baptist Church to have the Church, cemetery and baptismal path registered as a municipally registered heritage property. The owner of the land which holds the baptismal path objected to registration and the application did not proceed.

The Beechville United Baptist Church has amended their application and now request consideration for only the church and cemetery located at 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville. The building and cemetery are owned by the Church. The adjoining property, at 1133 St. Margaret's Bay Road, is also owned by the church and contains a church hall, which is not part of this application. A small portion of the church hall encroaches slightly over church lands, and it will be made clear though a map attached to the registration papers filed at the Registry of Deeds, that the heritage designation will apply to the church and cemetery, and not the church hall.

Under the Heritage Property Program, all registration applications for heritage buildings are reviewed by the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC). To provide a basis for the review, a Heritage Research Report (Attachment A) is developed to assist the Committee when scoring the building using *The Evaluation Criteria for Registration of Heritage Buildings in Halifax Regional Municipality* (Attachment B).

Should the building score more than 50 points, a positive recommendation will be provided to the Regional Council and notice of this recommendation will be provided to the registered owners of the building at least thirty (30) days prior to its registration.<sup>1</sup> An opportunity for the owners to be heard is provided before Council votes on the recommendation.<sup>2</sup> If the building is scored on June 22, 2005, Council cannot consider the registration earlier than August 29, 2005.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The historical research of the property was undertaken by Alfreda Withrow at a cost of \$460 (includes taxes) in 2003. This cost was borne by the Municipality and was funded from the operating budget account C310-6999.

In addition, should Regional Council approve the heritage registration of 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville, a plaque will be placed on the building. The cost to the Municipality for the plaque is approximately \$450 which will be funded from the operating budget account C310-6999.

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<sup>1</sup> As per Section 14(2) of the Heritage Property Act

<sup>2</sup> As per Section 15(2) of the Heritage Property Act

### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-year Financial Strategy, the approved operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating Reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

### ALTERNATIVES

There are no alternatives to be considered for Heritage Registrations.

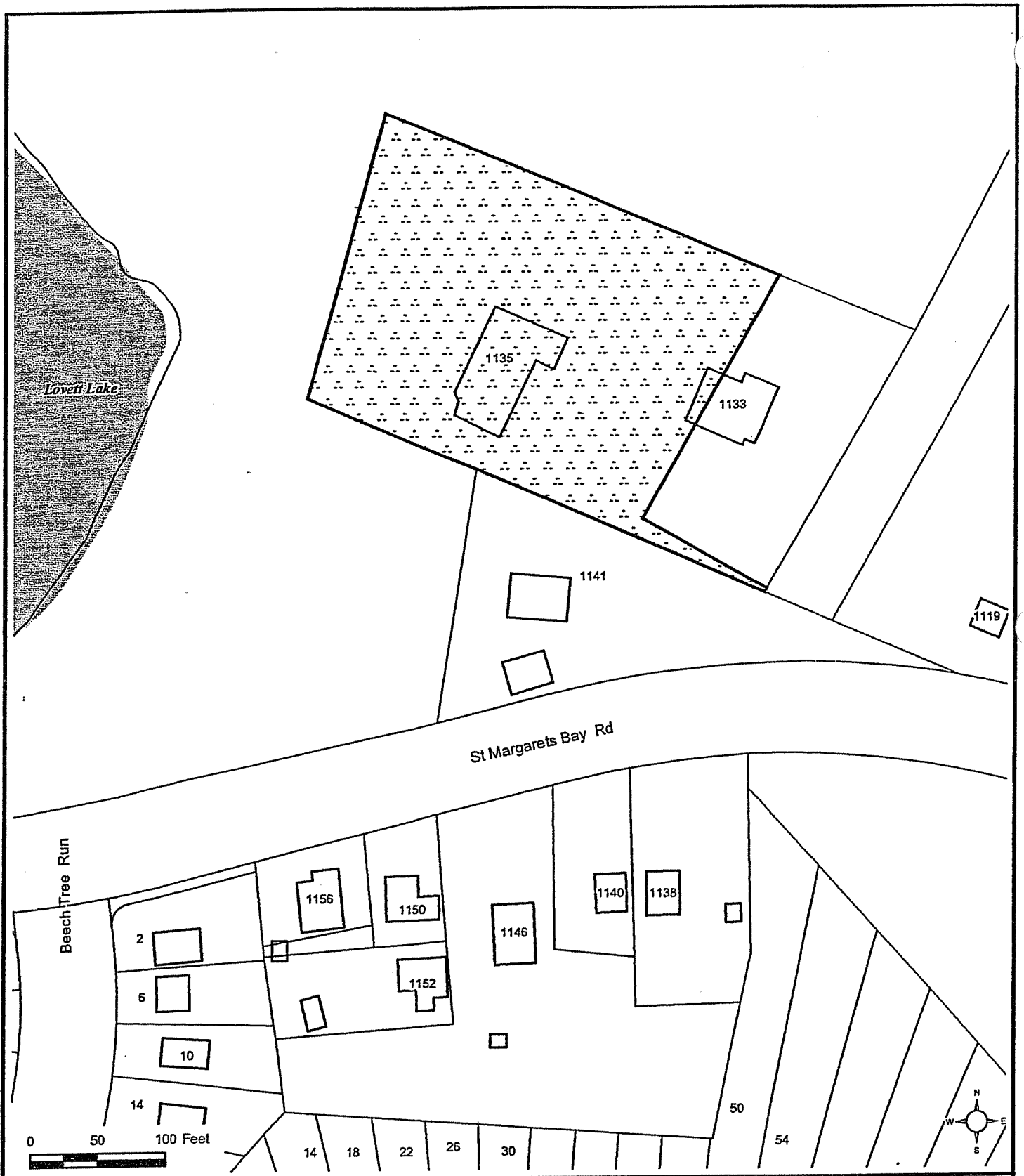
### ATTACHMENTS

- Map 1: Location Map - 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville
- Attachment A: June 23, 2003 report to HAC - Case 100105: Application to register the Beechville United Baptist Church, cemetery and baptismal path
- Attachment B: *Evaluation Criteria for Registration of Heritage Buildings in Halifax Regional Municipality*
- Attachment C: Photos of 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville

Additional copies of this report and information on its status can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report prepared by: Maggie Holm, Heritage Planner, 490-4419

Report reviewed by: *Kellea Redden June 27/05*  
Kellea Redden, Financial Consultant, 490-6267



Map 1 - Location Map



Subject area under consideration  
for heritage registration

**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

**1135 St Margarets Bay Road  
Beechville**

HRM does not guarantee the accuracy  
of any representation on this plan.





PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

Heritage Advisory Committee  
June 25, 2003

To: Heritage Advisory Committee

Submitted by:

  
Jim Donovan, Manager, Planning Applications

  
Kevin Barrett, Heritage Planner, Planning & Development Services

Date: June 5, 2003

Subject: H00105 - Application by Beechville United Baptist Church, 1135 St. Margarets Bay Road, Beechville, for Heritage Registration.

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#### STAFF REPORT

##### ORIGIN

An application by Beechville United Baptist Church, Beechville to consider the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and pathway to Lovett Lake, Beechville a Heritage Property.

##### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that should the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and pathway to Lovett Lake, Beechville score more than 45 points, the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend to Regional Council that this property be registered under the HRM Heritage Property Program (Map 1).

## **BACKGROUND**

Beechville United Baptist Church and Cemetery have made an application to have their property at 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville, and a pathway to Lovett Lake (on lands owned by Lovett Lake Holdings) considered a heritage property under the HRM Heritage Property program. The building and lands owned by the Church are currently used for religious worship. The lands owned by Lovett Lake Holdings are currently undeveloped.

Under the Heritage Property program, all registration applications for heritage buildings are reviewed by the Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC). To provide a basis for the review, a Heritage Research Report (Attachment 1) is developed that is used to score the building against the former Halifax County's Heritage Property Evaluation System (Attachment 2).

Should the building score more than 45 Points, a positive recommendation will be provided to the Regional Council, and notice of this recommendation will be provided to the registered owners of the building at least thirty (30) days prior to its registration.<sup>1</sup> An opportunity for the owners to be heard is provided before Council votes on the recommendation.<sup>2</sup> If the building is scored on June 25, 2003, Council cannot consider the registration earlier than August 26, 2003.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications for this application.

## **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-year Financial Strategy, the approved operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating Reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

There are no alternatives to be considered for Heritage Registrations.

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<sup>1</sup>As per Section 14(2) of the Heritage Property Act

<sup>2</sup>As per Section 15(2) of the Heritage Property Act.



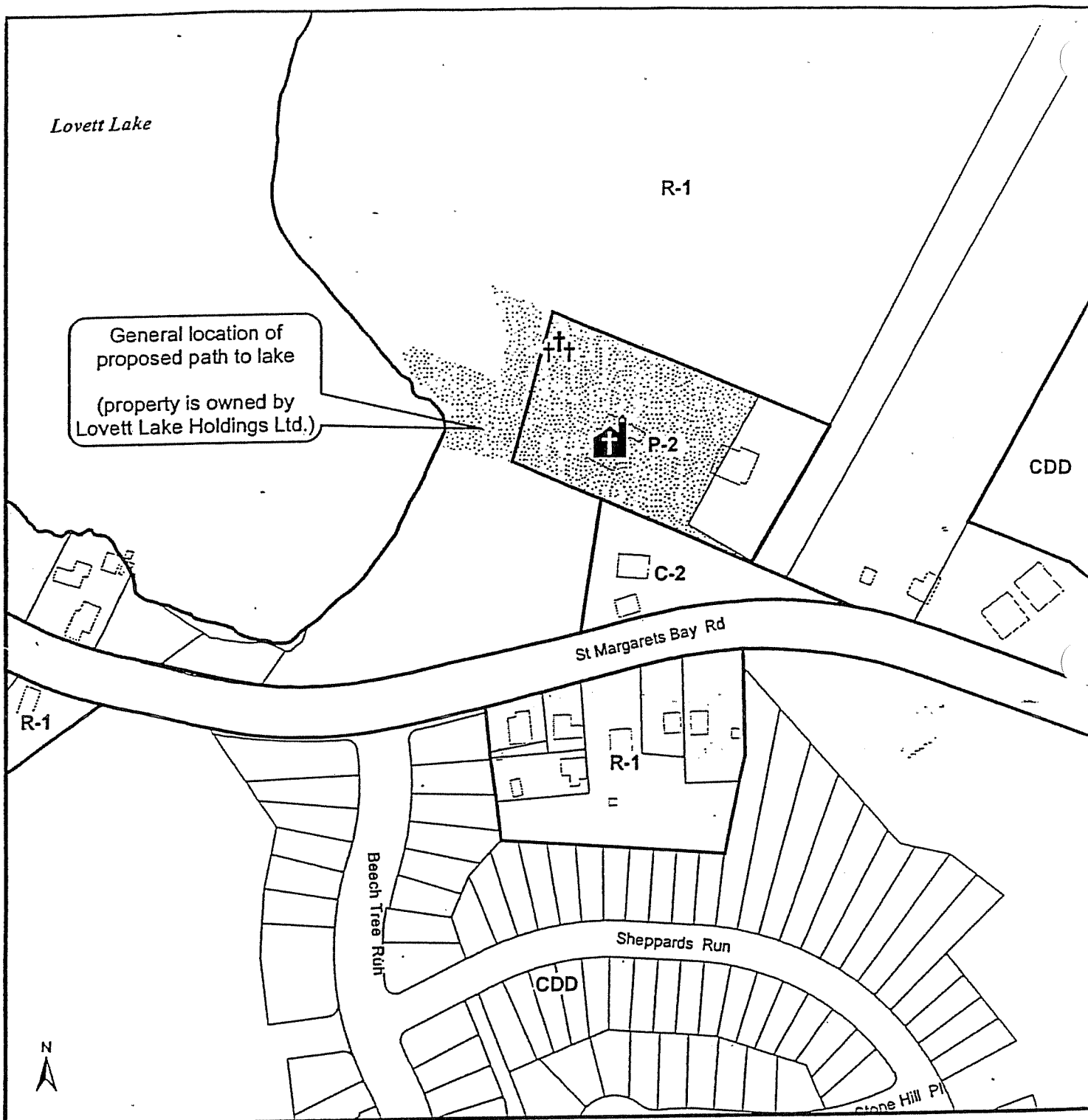
**ATTACHMENTS**

Map 1: Site Plan - 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville, Halifax

Attachment 1: Heritage Research Report for Beechville United Baptist Church and Surrounding Area

Attachment 2: Halifax County's Heritage Property Evaluation System

Further Information regarding the contents of this report may be obtained by contacting Kevin Barrett, Heritage Planner at 490-4419. For additional copies or information on the report's status, please contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at (tel) 490-4210 or (fax) 490-4208.



Map 1 - Location and Zoning

Beechville United Baptist Church  
1135 St. Margarets Bay Road  
Beechville




Church



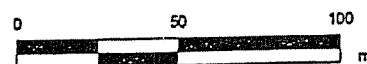
Cemetery

#### Zone

R-1	Single Unit Dwelling
C-2	General Business
P-2	Community Facility
CDD	Comprehensive Dev. District

 Area under consideration  
for heritage registration

**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY  
PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES



This map is an unofficial reproduction of a  
portion of the Zoning Map for the  
Timberlea/Lakeside/Beechville Plan Area.

HRM does not guarantee the accuracy of  
any representation on this plan.

**Report on the Beechville United Baptist Church  
And Surrounding Area**

**Prepared for: Kevin Barrett, Heritage Planner**

**Prepared by: Darryl Kelman**

**April 14, 2003**

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## Historic Background

Nova Scotia is home to Canada's oldest Black population<sup>1</sup> and along with New Brunswick "the birthplace and historic heartland of Canada's Baptist Denomination."<sup>2</sup> The first Blacks to arrive were loyalists between 1782 and 1785. The history of the settlement at Beechville (also known as Beech Hill) began in 1817. The early settlers of Beechville were refugee Blacks fleeing the United States of America. Many were ex-slaves from the American south. The Nova Scotia winter took its toll on these new inhabitants and through this common hardship and through their common experience as ex-slaves, they developed a deep bond and a close community.<sup>3</sup>

Early in Beechville's history, times were very tough and assistance from the government was needed for food, clothing, and other necessities. As the refugees had previously only known servitude, and were unaccustomed to the climate this was not surprising.<sup>4</sup> The Reverend John Burton, an Englishman, became an agent for the distribution of relief to the refugees, and Beechville was one of the communities under his care.<sup>5</sup> His Baptist Church, organized in 1795, also welcomed the refugees, and in time the congregation became mostly Black.<sup>6</sup> The African Baptist denomination was common in the Southern U.S. which is where a lot of the Black refugees originally came from. Rev. Burton preached at Beechville, as well as many other communities, but there is no evidence of a church building during his lifetime. After the death of Reverend Burton in 1838, Beechville residents turned to Reverend Richard Preston, one of Burton's closest followers, and a refugee Black himself, to be their religious leader. After Rev. Preston's death, Rev. James Thomas became the leader (see below for biographical sketches of Preston and Thomas).

In 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation in the United States led to large numbers of refugees returning south and this led to many refugee communities in Nova Scotia, including Beechville, suffering a dramatic decline in numbers.<sup>7</sup> Rev. Alexander Bailey followed Rev. Thomas, and after the death of Rev. Bailey the church was pastorless for a number of years. During this time, the church was visited a couple of times a month by various church leaders from the city.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> FS Boyd Jr. (ed), Peter McKerrow, A Brief History of the Coloured Baptists of Nova Scotia, 1783, 1895. 1976, p. xvii.

<sup>2</sup> DG Bell, "All Things New: The Transformation of Maritime Baptist Historiography," Nova Scotia Historical Review. 4 (2): p. 69, 1984.

<sup>3</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994, p. 16.

<sup>4</sup> CB Fergusson, A Documentary Study of the Establishment of the Negroes in Nova Scotia Between the War of 1812 and the Winning of Responsible Government. 1948.

<sup>5</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994, p. 16.

<sup>6</sup> Pearleen Oliver, A Brief History of the Coloured Baptists in Nova Scotia, 1782-1953. 1953, p. 21.

<sup>7</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994, p. 25.

<sup>8</sup> ibid, p. 40.

At the start of the twentieth century, church-goers became worried about a nearby Road House being opened and consequently a temperance movement began.<sup>9</sup> The church and community saw growth during this period and Rev. WN States, who visited the church frequently, held baptisms in the lake.<sup>10</sup> The name Beechville seemed to gain prominence over Beech Hill in this period as well, although reference to 'Beech Hill' appears as late as 1929.<sup>11</sup> Five soldiers from Beechville went to fight for Canada in World War I and all returned. Two are now buried in the church cemetery.

Following the Great Depression, which took its toll on Beechville as it did elsewhere, Rev. William Pearly Oliver performed his first baptism at the lake. Rev. Oliver would become the longest serving pastor in Beechville's history, serving for sixty-two years. Ten members of the congregation went overseas during World War II; nine to fight, and Rev. Oliver as a Chaplain.<sup>12</sup> During the 1950s membership at the church increased and the baptisms continued to be held at the lake.<sup>13</sup>

In 1979, the old church was replaced by the current church, and later that year the first indoor baptism was held. This was due in part to the development of an industrial park on the other side of the lake which led to suspicions the lake contained contaminants.

Throughout the history of Beechville, the one constant remains the church. As CB Fergusson points out, Blacks came to Nova Scotia to escape slavery or war; "few if any had come on their own initiative."<sup>14</sup> And as Elliot Skinner points out, "like Blacks all over the New World, they used that one institution in which they were completely autonomous, the Church, as an all-purpose organization to aid them in their survival."<sup>15</sup>

### Development and Occupation History

The land currently owned by the Beechville United Baptist Church was granted by deed to the "trustees of the Beech Hill Church" by the executors of the estate of John Metzler in 1885.<sup>16</sup> The names of the trustees, as mentioned on the deed, were Reverend Alexander Bailey (at that time, the Pastor of Beechville) and

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<sup>9</sup> *ibid*, p. 39.

<sup>10</sup> *ibid*, p. 40.

<sup>11</sup> See index to Grant Books, 1929.

<sup>12</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994, p. 58.

<sup>13</sup> *ibid*, pp. 63-64.

<sup>14</sup> CB Fergusson, A Documentary Study of the Establishment of the Negroes in Nova Scotia between the War of 1812 and the Winning of Responsible Government. 1948, p. 57.

<sup>15</sup> Elliot P. Skinner, "Forward" in Peter McKerrow, A Brief History of the Coloured Baptists of Nova Scotia, 1783-1895. Edited by FS Boyd Jr., 1976.

<sup>16</sup> Registry of Deeds, Book 385, p. 791. The transaction was not recorded in the registry until 1909.

Peter McKerrow. The deed stipulates that the land granted be "used only as a place of worship."<sup>17</sup> The previous deed, dated 1847, granting the land to Metzler from Hope Maxwell, stipulates that the grant is "in trust fore the site of a Baptist Meeting House in Beech Hill Settlement."<sup>18</sup> Although this deed could be interpreted as meaning that the church had not yet been built, no evidence could be found to suggest that the church historians were incorrect. As such, the construction date of 1844 for the original church will be taken as correct.<sup>19</sup> Both deeds are for a parcel of land of one acre, and "a road to it."<sup>20</sup>

Since then, there have been few major changes. In 1909, the Church building was made larger and of "better appearance."<sup>21</sup> A new school was opened in 1949, next to the church, as the old was in terrible shape. The land for the school was donated by the church. Following the desegregation of schools in Nova Scotia in 1963, the land came back to the church for use as the headquarters of the Beechville Housing Study Group. During this period, the Beechville subdivision was being built. The school is now a Community Centre. The church itself was completely rebuilt in 1979. This caused some controversy as the original church had sentimental value due to the fact that it was built by the original refugees themselves. The new church was built by BD Stevens (see below for a biographical sketch). The cemeteries surrounding the church have been in continuous use as well.

The land between the church property and the lake was sold to Lovett Lake Holdings Limited in 2002.<sup>22</sup> There is no development history to this land as it remains undeveloped. It was granted to George Yeadon in 1881<sup>23</sup> and changed hands numerous times before coming to Lovett Lake Holdings. On the deed dated 1884 between George Yeadon and Thomas Ritchie, there is mention of a "plot of ground which has been set apart by the said George Yeadon as a burial ground."<sup>24</sup> There is no clear indication that this mentioned burial ground is associated with the church. However, there is a cemetery associated with the Beechville Church which appears to encroach on the land between the church and the lake.

At no time did the Beechville Church own the land formerly of Yeadon, however, for over one hundred years they did use the land to get access to Lovett Lake. There are two historic paths across this stretch of land leading from the church to Lovett Lake. Although they have grown over somewhat in recent years, they can still be mostly identified through the brush. The more northern path was used to get to the viewing area, while the path to the south was used for the immersions. They were not merely a means to

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<sup>17</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> Registry of Deeds, Book 149, p. 174. The transaction was not recorded in the registry until 1865.

<sup>19</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994.

<sup>20</sup> Registry of Deeds, Book 149, p. 174 & Registry of Deeds, Book 385, p. 791.

<sup>21</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994, p. 44.

<sup>22</sup> Registry of Deeds, Book 7146, p. 131.

<sup>23</sup> Registry of Deeds, Book 54, p. 242. The transaction was not recorded in the registry until 1882.

<sup>24</sup> Registry of Deeds, Book 250, p. 136.

get to the lake; the procession from the church was an integral part of the immersion process and ceremony. Baptism is not the central truth in the Baptist system, however it is an important component.<sup>25</sup>

In 1817, the Government of Nova Scotia granted 1000 acres of land "near the North-West Arm ... for use of the Refugees."<sup>26</sup> Dr. Pearleen Oliver believes Beechville to be the area thus granted.<sup>27</sup> There seems to be no evidence to suggest otherwise, so 1817 can be taken as the date of the beginnings of Beechville, or Beech Hill, as it was commonly referred to as in the nineteenth century. Also to back up the date, is a petition of one Gareth Miller, which states that in 1816, "at the request of the late Surveyor General and on condition of receiving an equivalent in land [Gareth Miller] ... relinquished to the Government for the use of the Black Refugees ... 324 acres of land at Beach Hill."<sup>28</sup> Presumably this made up part of the 1000 acres. At times it was also called Refugee Hill, bringing about some confusion in early plans and deed books as there was also a Refugee Hill on Melville Island. As well, early plans indicating the lake now known as Lake Lovett were very inconsistent as to the shape and exact location of the lake (see figure 1).

## Historical Associations

### Richard Preston

Richard Preston was an escaped slave from Virginia who arrived in Halifax in 1816. He "found his calling" by helping Rev. Burton preach to the Black communities in Nova Scotia.<sup>29</sup> Preston was then educated in England and before returning to Halifax, he asked for and received money from the English Baptist Church to assist in building the Baptist Church on Cornwallis Street. The church was completed in 1833 and is still standing today. After Burton died, Preston took over his congregations in Halifax and the surrounding suburbs, including Beechville. Preston is said to be the organizer of the Negro Abolition Society in 1846, the first of its kind in Nova Scotia.<sup>30</sup> In 1854, he organized the African Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, which, like the church, is still around today.<sup>31</sup> He is also credited with building the original church at Beechville, and conducting the first official baptism in Lovett Lake.<sup>32</sup> He was a very important leader to the refugee Blacks of the mid-nineteenth century in Halifax and its surrounding area.

<sup>25</sup> WB Boggs, The Baptists: Who are they, and What do They Believe? A Lecture. 1877.

<sup>26</sup> PANS Call Number MG15, volume 9, #13.

<sup>27</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994, p. 15.

<sup>28</sup> PANS Call number RG1, volume 245, #41.

<sup>29</sup> Elizabeth Pacey, "Cornwallis Street", in Shelagh MacKenzie (ed), Halifax Street Names. 2002, p. 52.

<sup>30</sup> Peter McKerrow, A Brief History of the Coloured Baptists of Nova Scotia, 1783-1895. Edited by FS Boyd. 1976, p. 22.

<sup>31</sup> Pearleen Oliver, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994, p. 17.

<sup>32</sup> *ibid*, p. 64.

## James Thomas

Reverend Thomas, often called 'Father Thomas' by his brethren, was a Welshman who married a refugee woman and who was accepted into the African Baptist Church. Following the death of Preston, the Blacks turned to Thomas for religious leadership. Thomas was a big fan of open lake immersions and Lovett Lake, next to the Beechville United Baptist Church, was a favourite spot of his. In 1869 Rev. Thomas conducted an historic baptism at Beech Hill in which he received forty-seven candidates in twenty minutes. According to historian Peter McKerrow, hundreds watched as the procession went from the Church to the lake, and that the scene was "one long to be remembered."<sup>33</sup> The event was recorded in a poem by William Golar, one of those immersed, which was published in 1904. Golar was a refugee who returned to the U.S.A. after 1863 for an education, and who became Professor of Ancient Languages at Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina.<sup>34</sup> Members of Rev. Thomas's family included historian Peter McKerrow (whose name appears on the original deed for the church) and lawyer James R. Johnston who was murdered on March 15, 1915. In 1878, Rev. Thomas conducted his last baptism at Beech Hill.<sup>35</sup>

## William P. Oliver

Reverend Oliver became pastor of Beechville in 1937 and as mentioned above, he served for sixty-two years; the longest of any pastor in Beechville's history. During that time he conducted numerous baptisms at Lovett Lake. He served in the Chaplaincy Department from the end of 1943 to April of 1946. He is notable as the first Black graduate of Acadia University. He was also the first Black President of the Baptist Convention. Rev. Oliver was a leader in education in the province and was a firm believer in the importance of a good education. He was also a key component to the continuing development of the Beechville community with the belief that "community development is based on the philosophy of working with people, not for them."<sup>36</sup> He received honorary degrees and the Order of Canada for all his good work at all levels of the community. After his death, Acadia Divinity College established a Memorial Bursary in his name for \$25 000.<sup>37</sup>

## BD Stevens

Born in Windsor, Nova Scotia, builder BD Stevens arrived in Halifax in 1917 and got his start helping to rebuild after the explosion. Although BD Stevens had little to do with the path leading from the Beechville Church to Lovett Lake, he is a very important figure in maritime history, particularly in Nova Scotia.

<sup>33</sup> Peter McKerrow, *A Brief History of the Coloured Baptists of Nova Scotia, 1783-1895*. 1976, p. 31.

<sup>34</sup> Pearleen Oliver, *Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church*. 1994, p. 22.

<sup>35</sup> *ibid*, p. 34.

<sup>36</sup> *ibid*, p. 69.



Throughout his career Stevens built over thirty churches throughout the Maritimes, including the current Beechville United Baptist Church.<sup>38</sup> He was also responsible for the Bridgeview subdivision, the Beaverbank Nursing Home and the Wedgewood Motel. Stevens was also a devout Baptist, and was President of the Baptist Convention in 1959 (William Oliver followed). During his life (which ended in 1989), Stevens gave over one million dollars to the Church, in time and money. When individual Churches could not afford it, he would work for free. His impact is summed up by Harry Renfree; "He was one of the greatest church builders in the Atlantic provinces....As far as the Baptists are concerned, he was the greatest church plant builder we have ever had historically in all of Canada."<sup>39</sup>

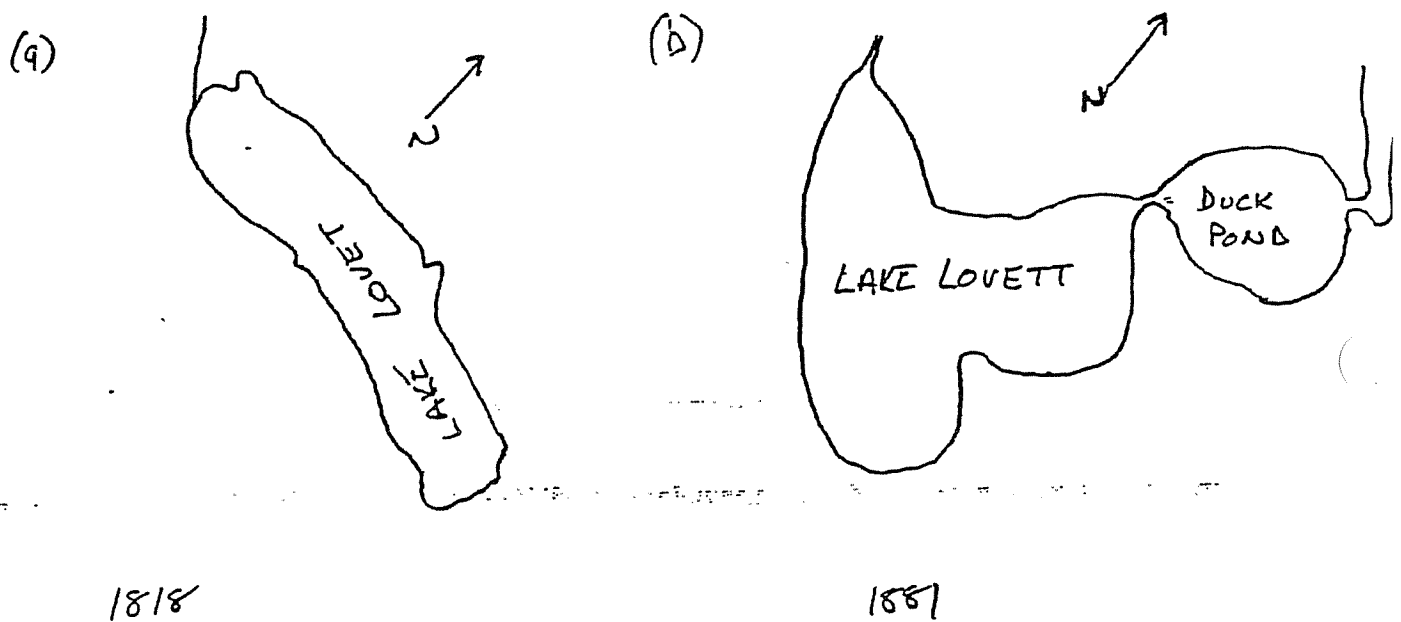
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<sup>37</sup> *ibid.*, p. 99.

<sup>38</sup> Peter Brock (ed), The Man Who Built Churches: The Story of BD Stevens. 1990, p. 73.

<sup>39</sup> Harry Renfree, quoted in Peter Brock (ed.), The Man Who Built Churches: The Story of BD Stevens. 1990, p. 117.

Figure 1: A comparison of two nineteenth-century plans showing Lake Lovett (tracing done by the author).



(a)-PANS RG1, volume 419, # 36. (b)-Land Grants Book 4, p. 371.

## References

- Bell, DG, "All Things New: The Transformation of Maritime Baptist Historiography," Nova Scotia Historical Review. 4 (2), 1984, pp. 69-81.
- Boggs, WB, The Baptists: Who are they and What do They Believe? A Lecture. 1877.
- Boyd Jr., FS (ed), Peter McKerrow, A Brief History of the Coloured Baptists of Nova Scotia, 1783-1895. 1976.
- Brock, Peter (ed), The Man Who Built Churches: The Story of BD Stevens. 1990.
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- MacKenzie, Shelagh (ed), Halifax Street Names. 2002.
- Oliver, Pearleen, A Brief History of the Coloured Baptists in Nova Scotia, 1782-1953. 1953.
- Oliver, Pearleen, Song of the Spirit: An Historical Narrative On the History of the Beechville United Baptist Church. 1994.
- PANS Call Number MG15, volume 9, #13.
- PANS Call Number RG1, volume 245 #41.
- PANS Call Number RG1, volume 419, #36.
- Registry of Deeds, Book 54-242.
- Registry of Deeds, Book 149-174.
- Registry of Deeds, Book 250-136.
- Registry of Deeds, Book 385-791.
- Registry of Deeds, Book 7146-131.
- Registry of Deeds, Grant Books Index, 1929.
- Registry of Deeds, Grant Book 4-371.
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## HALIFAX COUNTY MUNICIPALITY

### Heritage Property Evaluation System

On October 18, 1983 Council approved this Evaluation System for designating Heritage Properties in the Municipality. For a property to be considered for designation, it must score a minimum of 45 points out of 100.

CRITERIA	POINTS
<b>1. Age (when built)</b>	
----- - 1840	15
1841 - 1867	12
1868 - 1880	10
1881 - 1895	8
1896 - 1914	7
1915 - 1933	5
<b>2. Relationship to Important Occasions, Institutions, personages (early settlers)</b>	
(a) Local Importance	20
(b) Provincial Importance	15
(c) National Importance	10
<b>3. Relationship to surrounding area</b>	
(a) Excellent (building is a definite asset to surrounding buildings and area)	10
(b) Good (building is very compatible with surrounding buildings and area)	7
(c) Fair (Building is in keeping with the character of the area)	5

CRITERIA	POINTS
<b>4. Aesthetic / Architectural Merit</b>	
(i) (a) Rarity (Only or rare example of particular Architectural type in Halifax County)	20
(b) Only or rare example in local area (size of School Board district)	10
(ii) (a) Original Facade (facade is not altered in a major way)	5
<b>5. Quality of architectural type</b>	
(a) Excellent example of architectural type	20
(b) Good example of architectural type	15
(c) Fair example of architectural type	10
<b>6. Extra points</b>	15

3.1 H00105 - Application for Registration of Beechville United Baptist Church

- A staff report prepared for Jim Donovan, Manager, Planning Applications, regarding the above, was before the Committee for its consideration.

Mr. Kevin Barrett, Heritage Planner, presented the report to the Committee.

In response to a question of Ms. Morris regarding registering pathways, Mr. Barrett advised that he was not certain a pathway has been registered in the past, confirmation was received from the Province that it is permissible for the Committee to consider such a registration.

Responding to a question of Dr. Balch, Mr. Barrett stated that, at the next step of the process, a description of the area will be provided so in the future the areas registered will be clear.

Mr. Creighton inquired if it is possible for the Committee to evaluate the application based on the history of the property rather than the building. Mr. Barrett responded that the property could be considered the site in terms of the evaluation. He noted the cemetery is also a feature of the site that can also be taken into consideration. If the property was to be registered, Mr. Barrett stated the plaque could be placed on the building or another type of marker may be explored.

Mr. MacLellan noted heritage buildings and heritage sites should be differentiated in terms of evaluation for registration.

For the purpose of this application, the Committee agreed that, for this particular case only, the Committee would accept the scoring of a site rather than the building for the purpose of evaluation of this property. Mr. Barrett noted the evaluation criteria states "properties" which would include more than just the building, and the cemetery and the use of the land could also be evaluated.

It was agreed that the criteria regarding quality of architectural type be omitted for this evaluation as it is not relevant to this application. Also, that aesthetic/architectural merit be changed to aesthetic merit.

An evaluation of the Beechville United Baptist Church ensued, with the following results:

EXTRACT FROM DRAFT JUNE 25, 2003 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES:

Page 2

	<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>
1.	Age 1844	12
2.	Relationship to Important Occasions, Institutions, Personages Local Importance	20
3.	Relationship to surrounding area Good	7
4.	Aesthetic Merit Only or rare example in local area (church by lake used for baptisms)	10
5.	Quality of architectural type	n/a
6.	Extra Points	15

MOVED by Councillor Bob Harvey, seconded by Ms. Andrea Arbic, that the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend to Regional Council that the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and pathway be scored a total of 64 points and be recommended to Regional Council to be registered under the HRM Heritage Property Program.

MOVED by Dr. Toby Balch, seconded by Ms. Andrea Arbic, that the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend that staff make the harmonization of all of the former municipal units' heritage property evaluation criteria a priority so the Committee has proper evaluation sheets for buildings and a separate evaluation system be developed for heritage sites throughout HRM. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

### 1. AGE

Age is probably the single most important factor in the popular understanding of the heritage value of buildings. The following age categories are based on local, national and international occasions that may be considered to have defined the character of what is how the Halifax Regional Municipality and its architecture.

Date of Construction	Points	Timeline
1749 - 1785	25	Halifax Garrison Town to the Loyalist migration
1786 - 1830	20	Boom period following construction of the Shubenacadie Canal.
1831 - 1867	16	From Boom to Confederation
1868 - 1899	13	Confederation to the end of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century
1900 - 1917	9	Turn of the Century to Halifax Harbour Explosion
1918 - 1945	5	The War Years
1945 - Present	3	Post-War

\* Maximum score of 25 points in this category

### 2. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

A building can receive points for:

A) Having specific associations with important occasions, institutions, personages and groups,

OR

B) For being architecturally important unique/representative of a particular period.

#### 2A) Relationship to Important Occasions, Institutions, Personages or Groups

Nationally	Points	Comments
Intimately Related	16 - 20	
Moderately Related	11 - 15	
Loosely Related	1 - 10	
Provincially	Points	Comments
Intimately Related	11 - 15	
Moderately Related	6 - 10	
Loosely Related	1 - 5	



Locally	Points	Comments
- Intimately Related	11- 15	
- Moderately Related	6 - 10	
- Loosely Related	1 - 5	
No relationship to important occasions, institutions, personages or groups.	0	

*\* Maximum score of 20 points in this category, scoring from one of the three categories only*

## 2B) Important/Unique Architectural Style or Highly Representative of an Era

Importance	Points	Comments
Highly important/ unique/representative of an era	16 - 20	
Moderately important/ unique/representative of an era	11 - 15	
Somewhat important/ representative of an era	10 - 1	
Not important/ unique/representative of an era	0	

*\* Maximum score of 20 points in this category.*

## 3. SIGNIFICANCE OF ARCHITECT/BUILDER

Is the structure representative of the work of an architect or builder of local, provincial or national importance.

Status	Points	Comments
Nationally Significant	7 - 10	
Provincially Significant	4 - 6	
Locally Significant	1 - 3	
Not Significant	0	

*\* Maximum score of 10 points in this category.*

#### 4. ARCHITECTURAL MERIT

The assessment of architectural merit is based on two factors:

- A) Construction type/building technology:* which refers to the method by which the structure was built (early or rare uses of materials), and building techniques;
- B) Style:* which refers to the form or appearance of the architecture.

Construction type/building technology		
A) Construction type	Points	Comments
Very rare/ early example	7 - 10	
Moderately rare/ early example	4 - 6	
Somewhat rare/ early example	1 - 3	
Not rare/ common example	0	
B) Style	Points	Comments
Very rare/ early example	7 - 10	
Moderately rare/ early example	4 - 6	
Somewhat rare/ early example	1 - 3	
Not rare/ common example	0	

*\* Maximum score of 10 points for Construction Type, and a maximum score of 10 for Style - a total maximum of 20 points in this category.*

#### 5. ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRITY

Architectural Integrity refers to the extent to which the building retains original features/ structures/ styles, not the state of the building's condition.

Architecture	Consider any additions/ removal/ alterations to windows, doors, porches, dormers, roof lines, foundations, chimneys, and cladding.	
Exterior	Points	Comments
Largely unchanged	11 - 15	
Modest changes	6 - 10	
Major changes	1 - 5	
Seriously compromised	0	

*\* Maximum score of 15 points in this category.*

## 6. RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDING AREA

Points	Comments
6 - 10	The building is an important architectural asset contributing to the heritage character of the surrounding area.
1 - 5	The Architecture is compatible with the surrounding area and maintains its heritage character.
0	Does not contribute to the character of the surrounding area.

\* Maximum score of 10 points in this category.

### SCORING SUMMARY

Property	Date Reviewed	Reviewer

Criterion	Highest Possible Score	Score Awarded
1. Age	25	
2. a) Relationship to Important Occasions, Institutions, Personages or Groups OR 2. b) Important/Unique Architectural Style or Highly Representative of an Era	20	
3. Significance of Architect/Builder	10	
4. a) Architectural Merit: Construction type/building technology	10	
4. b) Architectural Merit: Style	10	
5. Architectural Integrity	15	
6. Relationship to Surrounding Area	10	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	

SCORE NECESSARY FOR DESIGNATION

50

Designation Recommended?

YES ☐

NO ☐

COMMENTS:

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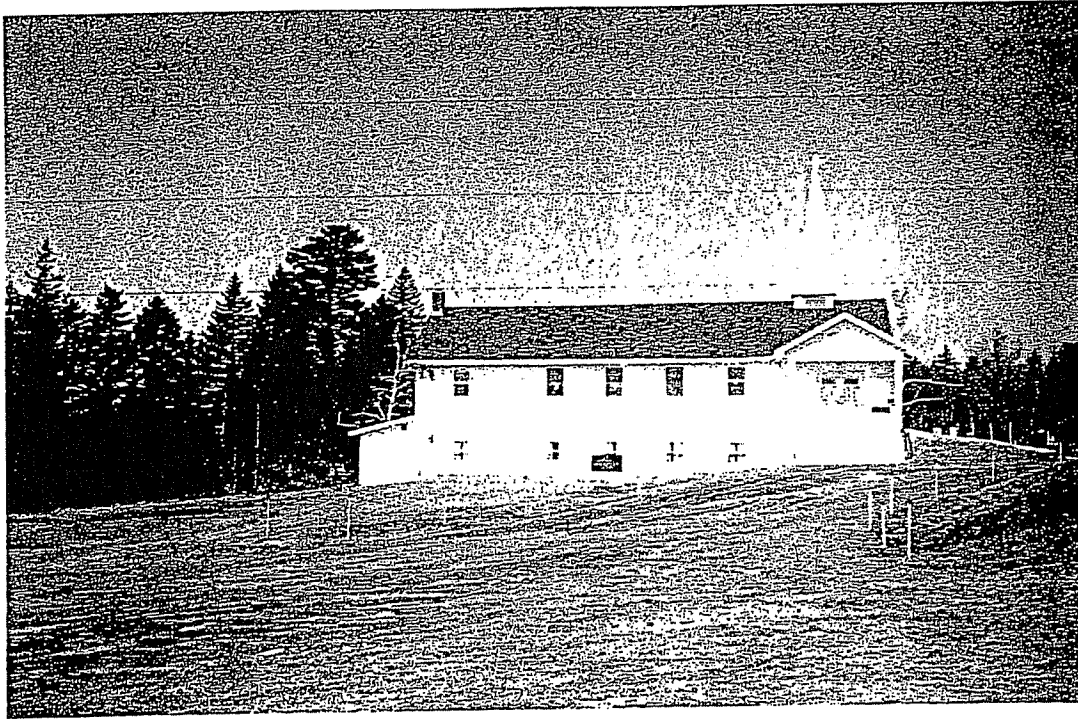
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## Heritage Property Program

## Evaluation Criteria

**HERITAGE SITES**

Definition: "Heritage Site", a parcel of land, together with any structures thereon, deemed to be representative of the social, cultural, commercial, military, or political history of the County, Province, or Nation. Sub-categories are: Cemeteries, Places of Heritage Significance, and Heritage Parks.

**Basic Criteria.**

Related to aspects of life from 50 or more years ago

relationship to the heritage of the County

or

relationship to important occasions, institutions, personages, or eras in the histories of the City, Province, or Nation. (Sites which fulfill this criterion may be added, regardless of ability to fulfill the other two criteria).

**Priority Criteria**

5. Relationship to important (i) occasions, institutions, personages, or (ii) eras
6. Relationship to surrounding area

Using the following ranking system, a site could achieve a perfect score of 40 points

**■ HERITAGE SITES**

CRITERIA	POINTS	JUSTIFICATION / EXPLANATION
<b>1. Relationship to Important Occasions, Institutions, Personages, Eras</b>		A site would not be given points for <u>both</u> a relationship to occasions, institutions, persons <u>and</u> to an era. The relationship which was most closely related to the site would be chose.
(i) <u>Occasions, Institutions Personages</u>		For sites with more than one relationship, the most closely related relationship was chosen as the primary relationship, and for additional relations, 2 points would be added for National importance, 3 for Provincial importance and 5 for Local importance, up to an extra 10 points.
Local Importance	20	
Provincial Importance	15	
National Importance	10	
(ii) <u>Eras</u>	10	

## ■ HERITAGE SITES

CRITERIA	POINTS	JUSTIFICATION / EXPLANATION
<b>2. Relationship to Surrounding Area</b>		
Excellent	10	Site is a definite asset to the surrounding area
Good	7	Site is very compatible with surrounding area.
Fair	5	Site is in keeping with the character of the surrounding area.
<b>ADDITIONAL COMMENTS</b>		
<p>For this criterion, the use of the site in relation to the use of surrounding land would be considered.</p> <p>It would be assumed that for a site the most important factor would be its historical relationships. However, it was also felt that priority should be given to the site which is well-suited to its surroundings, if any choice were necessary between two equally historic areas.</p> <p><u>It is recommended that the minimum scoring level for listing Heritage Sites be 20 points.</u></p>		

## HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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### HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE Minute Extract June 29, 2005

#### 4.2 H00169 - Application for Registration of Beechville United Baptist Church & Cemetery

- A staff report dated June 15, 2005 was before the Committee for discussion.

Ms. Maggie Holm advised the Committee the Beechville United Church has amended their application for consideration of the church and cemetery. The original application included the baptismal path. She proceeded to provide an historical overview as presented in the report by Mr. Darryl Kelman.

Ms. Holm advised that the map will clearly indicate what portion of the cemetery is to be registered.

Ms. Holm further advised that the Committee will be scoring the site based on the new Evaluation Criteria for the registration of Heritage Buildings. A discussion ensued regarding the scoring process. She pointed out that the Committee could not use the scores from 2003 as the path was included.

A discussion ensued in regards to scoring the application based on the building when they are registering a site. Ms. Holm advised that the new criteria for the evaluation of a heritage site is not complete as yet.

The Chair advised that the Committee must think about the site while scoring. Ms. Holm suggested that the Committee could defer the application until the new criteria for the evaluation of a heritage site is complete and expressed concern that the application may not score high enough on the basis of the Church. Mr. Plaskett suggested that the Committee evaluate the application based on the existing site criteria. Ms. Holm indicated that Legal Services has advised that unless the criteria was in the former jurisdiction of that body it cannot be used.

The Chair, in reference to the June 25, 2003 minutes noted that Mr. Barrett had advised that *"the property could be considered the site in terms of the evaluation. He noted the cemetery is also a feature of the site that can also be taken into consideration"*. Further that Mr. Barrett also noted that *"the evaluation criteria states the word "properties" includes more than just the building and the cemetery and the use of the land could also be evaluated"*. The Chair also advised that the evaluation form includes Halifax County and therefore the form can be used. **The Committee agreed not to defer the application and to use the current site evaluation form.**

Ms. Carolann Wright Parks clarified the following in response to questions:

- Ownership of the portion of property on which the path is located is in dispute.
- The earliest burial in the cemetery would be between 1832 and 1844.
- The first church was built in 1832 and the second church in 1844.
- The site dates back to 1812.
- The current church is not a replica of the previous church.

Ms. Wright Parks asked the Committee that in the event the application is approved are there any restrictions and would expanding the grave site be hindered.

Ms. Holm advised that an application is required. She also advised that if approved, the site may be eligible for funding assistance for maintenance and repairs. Mr. Plaskett pointed out that a substantial alteration cannot be made without approval.

Ms. Wright Parks asked if the portion of land that is not in dispute were designated would the property boundary and size of the area be accurately reflected.

Ms. Holm advised that the size of the area would be included in the registration papers. Mr. Plaskett stressed that the area of land being registered needs to be absolutely clear and be identified by map and a written description.

The Chair advised the applicant that in the event that the property line dispute is settled in favour of the applicant, they can put forth an application to have the remaining property incorporated into the Heritage Registration.

In response to Mr. Mont. Ms. Wright Parks advised that the developer is indicating that they own the entire portion. The line on the map was drawn by the developer. There is a map that indicates that the church owns 10 acres and not two acres and another map that indicates 167 acres. Mr. Mont asked whether or not squatters rights comes into effect after use of a property for 150 years. Mr. Clarence Butler indicated that the developer cannot dig up the cemeteries.

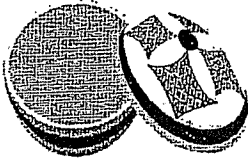
The Chair advised the Committee that it is up to the Courts to decide who owns the property. As an advisory committee to Regional Council the Committee can only recommend registration of the portion of the property for which there is clear title. Ms. Holm clarified that the developer has no claims on the portion that is currently being registered.



### Scoring Summary Heritage Sites

Criterion	Score	Comment
1. Relationship to Important Occasions, Institutions, Personages, Eras  (is) <u>Occasions, Institutions, Personages</u>  Local Importance                      20 Provincial Importance                3 National Importance                  2  ii.) <u>Eras</u>		The Committee agreed that local importance is the primary relationship however for addition relations it added an extra five points.
2. Relationship to surrounding area  Excellent Good Fair	10	The committee awarded 10 points for excellent.
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	The site achieved the minimum scoring level for Heritage Sites of 20 points.

**MOVED** by Councillor Harvey, seconded by Ms. Arbic, that the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend that Regional Council approve application H00169, as proposed in the staff report dated June 15, 2005 for the registration of Beechville United Baptist Church and Cemetery, 1135 St. Margaret's Bay Road as a Heritage Site. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**



***Beechville Community Heritage  
Association***

***P.O. Box 831 Central Halifax NS B3J 2V2***

April 6, 2005

Halifax Regional Municipality  
Heritage Advisory Committee  
P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5  
Attn: Mr. Tom Creighton, Chairman

Dear Mr. Creighton,

The Beechville Community Heritage Association is the designated voice which speaks for both the Beechville United Baptist Church as well as the community of Beechville, with respect to H00105 – Application for registration of Beechville United Baptist Church. The Heritage Advisory Committee scored said Application a total of 64 points and recommended to Regional Council that the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and Pathway be registered under the HRM Heritage Property Program. The Motion was put and passed unanimously at your meeting dated June 25, 2003.

At the Halifax Regional Council Meeting of July 8, 2003, the date of August 26, 2003 was set for a Heritage hearing to consider our Application. However, at that August meeting, correspondence was circulated, dated August 25, 2003, from Lovett Lake Holdings Limited. Halifax Regional Council, at that time, referred the Application back to staff.

At your Heritage Advisory Committee meeting of December 8, 2003, Ms. Rhanda James, Acting Heritage Planner provided your Committee with a verbal update regarding the Application. We have received absolutely no contact from, nor have entered into any discussions with any of your representatives for sixteen months, therefore, the members of the Beechville Community Heritage Association respectfully request an opportunity to deliver a brief presentation and update to the Heritage Advisory Committee at the April 27, 2005 meeting. We thank you in advance for your prompt consideration and response concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

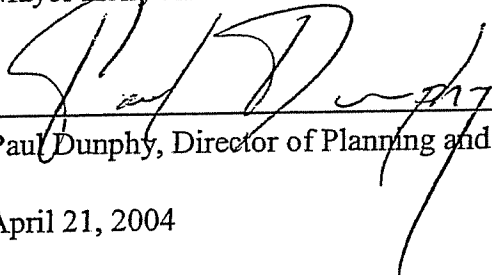
Mr. Clarence Wright, Chairman  
Beechville Community Heritage Association  
e-mail [beechville22@hotmail.com](mailto:beechville22@hotmail.com) Phone: 876-2731



PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

Halifax Regional Council  
May 4, 2004

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Paul Dunphy, Director of Planning and Development Services

**DATE:** April 21, 2004

**SUBJECT:** CASE H00105 - Application to consider the Beechville United Baptist Church at 135 St. Margaret's Bay Road as a Registered Heritage Property.

## INFORMATION REPORT

### ORIGIN

- An application made by Beechville United Baptist Church, Beechville to consider the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and pathway leading to Lovett Lake, Beechville as a registered heritage property.
- August 26, 2003 (status sheet item 8.1), Regional Council referred the item back to staff.

### BACKGROUND

The Beechville United Baptist Church has requested designation of the Beechville Church site property and an area beyond the church as a registered heritage property. Difficulties have arisen regarding the area of land beyond the church. This area contains approximately 25 grave sites and a pathway leading to Lake Lovett which was used historically for lake access to conduct baptisms. This area, which the Church would like to designate, is on lands which are owned by Cresco Homes Limited.

When HAC reviewed the application the two property owners appeared to be in agreement that the Church would continue to be permitted to use the Cresco lands for purposes associated with the church. Specifically, Cresco provided the Church with a letter granting access and permission to "*clear and clean the path behind the church which they hold to be holy and historic*". The application proceeded to a hearing on this basis.

However, after formal notification of the intended designation was sent to the property owners, Cresco Homes submitted a letter to Council objecting to any designation of its lands. Their concerns were that in designating this area of their property would effectively preclude their ability to access the back of the property. Consequently, Council referred the application back to staff in order to facilitate further discussion between the two property owners.

### **DISCUSSION**

Presently, Cresco Homes has submitted a planning application to develop their lands pursuant to a Comprehensive Development District (CDD) agreement. A condition of that development proposal includes a land swap which will bring the lands with the baptismal path into the ownership of the Beechville United Church. The planning application process had just been initiated, which involves additional negotiation and public meetings. When the comprehensive development agreement is complete the proposal will be before Community Council for approval. Additionally, once the ownership issues have been resolved regarding the lands associated with the baptismal path, staff will re-notify for a heritage hearing for Heritage Designation.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no known budget implications for this permit application at this time.

### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

There are no alternatives to municipal heritage registration.

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Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Maggi Holm, Heritage Planner, 490-4419

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## HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

### HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL EXTRACT of MINUTES AUGUST 26, 2003 (page 5)

8.1 Case H00105 - Application by Beechville United Baptist Church, 1135  
St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville for Heritage Registration

- An extract from the July 8, 2003 Regional Council minutes was before Council.
- A report from the Heritage Advisory Committee, dated June 27, 2003, on the above noted, was before Council.
- Correspondence from Taleb Abidali, Lovett Lake Holdings Limited, dated August 25, 2003, was circulated to Council.

**MOVED by Councillor Hetherington, seconded by Councillor Warshick, that  
Regional Council refer the item back to staff. MOTION PUT AND PASSED  
UNANIMOUSLY.**



7 Peruz Court • PO Box 48099 RPO Mill Cove • Bedford • Nova Scotia • B4A 3Z2  
Office - 902.832.6666 • Fax - 902.832.2409 • Email - office@crescohomes.com  
www.crescohomes.com

HALIFAX REGIONAL  
MUNICIPALITY

AUG 25 2003

MUNICIPAL CLERK

August 25, 2003

Municipal Clerk's Office  
Halifax Regional Municipality  
P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Dear Madam Clerk:

***RE: Proposed Heritage Designation – Baptist United Church, Cemetery and vacant lands at 1135 St Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville***

Reference is made to your recent advisory concerning the proposed designation of the above referenced lands under the municipality's Heritage Property Program.

We are the owners of the so-called "vacant" parcel of land being proposed for heritage designation. The area of land forms part of Block F of the *Lands Conveyed to the Franklin Service Company Limited*, a 41-acre parcel of land that was purchased for future development.

As the property owner, we do not support nor do we agree with the designation of any portion of our property under the Heritage Property Program. We are aware of the minor encroachment of the cemetery onto our property. We are also aware of the alleged use of an old path leading from the Church to the adjacent Lovett Lake. Both of these matters will be taken into consideration in accordance with provincial regulations and common property law.

While the designation may be appropriate for the church and surrounding cemetery, we not agree that it should be applied to private property. In our opinion, there is nothing to be gained by applying a heritage designation to a portion of our property. On the other hand, we see the designation as a diminution of property value and a potential encumbrance to development that would otherwise be permitted under the existing land use by-law.

We understand that Regional Council has several options relative to this application. It can approve the application as proposed; reduce the scope of the application to only the church property; reject the application outright; or it can defer the matter in order to allow the municipality to confer with the affected property owners. Our preference is for council to reduce the scope of the application to exclude our land from the designation. Alternatively, we would appreciate Council's deferral of the application until we have had an opportunity to meet with appropriate staff.

We trust this is to your satisfaction.

Yours truly,

Taleb Abidali

Attachment  
17



P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

Halifax Regional Council  
July 8, 2003

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** P. Halliday  
for Allan MacLellan, Chair  
Heritage Advisory Committee

**DATE:** June 27, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Case H00105 - Application by Beechville United Baptist Church, 1135  
St. Margaret's Bay Road, Beechville, for Heritage Registration

**ORIGIN**

June 25, 2003 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Heritage Advisory Committee **recommends** that Regional Council:

- 1) Set the date of Tuesday, August 26, 2003, for a Heritage Hearing to consider the heritage registration of the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and pathway to Lovett Lake, Beechville.
- 2) Approve the heritage registration of the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and pathway to Lovett Lake, Beechville, as per the HRM Heritage Property Program.

**PLEASE RETAIN REPORT FOR HERITAGE HEARING**

## **BACKGROUND**

See attached staff report dated June 5, 2003.

## **DISCUSSION**

See attached draft June 25, 2003 Heritage Advisory Committee minute extract.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1) Staff report to the HAC dated June 5, 2003
- 2) Draft June 25, 2003 HAC minute extract

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Patti Halliday, Legislative Assistant

Report Approved by: Allan MacLellan, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee



## **HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**

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### **HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL - EXTRACT OF MINUTES JULY 8, 2003 (PAGE 16)**

#### **10.3 HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

##### **10.3.1 Case H00105 - Application by Beechville United Baptist Church, 1135 St. Margaret's Road, Beechville, for Heritage Registration**

- A report from Allan MacLellan, Chair, Heritage Advisory Committee, dated June 27, 2003, was before the Committee for consideration.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Meade as recommended by the Heritage Advisory Committee, Regional Council:**

- 1) **Set the date of Tuesday, August 26, 2003, for a Heritage Hearing to consider the heritage registration of the Beechville United Baptist Church, Cemetery and pathway to Lovett Lake, Beechville.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

