



The heritage resources located in Whitehorse are important to all of us who make this place our home. They give us a link to the past and help define us as a community. There are prominent heritage resources that everyone recognizes, such as the *S.S. Klondike*, the Old Log Church, and the Log Skyscrapers. Whitehorse also has historic neighbourhoods and landscapes, including the railway and shipyards, the neighbourhoods built by the federal government, and the remains of the Canol Refinery. All of these places contribute to the unique identity of Whitehorse.

## Heritage Registry:

The City of Whitehorse has a list of resources that demonstrate historical significance. This list is known as the Heritage Registry. If a resource on the list is a residence, there are no special restrictions that apply to the property. If the resource is a commercial property, there is a 30 day waiting period after applying for a building or demolition permit; this time allows City Administration and City Council to review the case and decide whether or not the resource should be designated as a Municipal Historic Site for conservation purposes.

## How does a building get on the Heritage Registry?

In 2000, the City conducted a thorough survey of potential heritage buildings in Whitehorse. An inventory was created of structures built before 1960 that have retained most of their original form and materials. The buildings were evaluated according to:

- **Architectural History** – not just pretty buildings, but those that represent a particular building style, type, or period of construction.
- **Association** – with an important person, group, event or period in the development of Whitehorse.
- **Pattern** – the importance of a site to a theme in history such as mining, settlement, commerce, education, etc.
- **Context** – the building's environment. Is it still on its original site? Is it still surrounded by buildings or a landscape from its own time?
- **Integrity** – how much is left of the original building or grounds and what condition is it in?

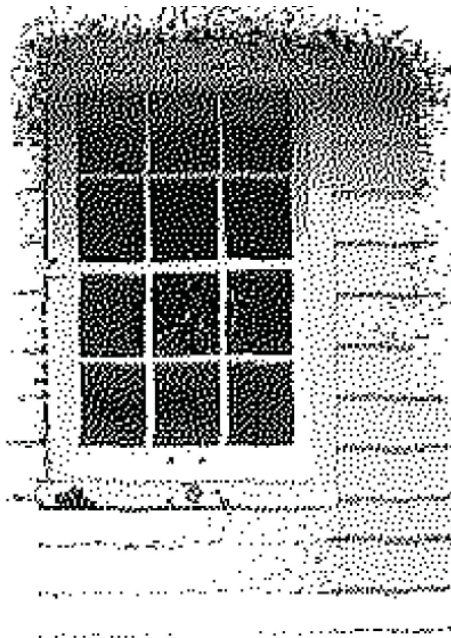
All resources were given a score with the highest being placed on the Heritage Registry. Some buildings in the inventory were not placed on the list because they were not of high enough significance or had been modified beyond recognition.

Through this process, historic neighbourhoods and collections of buildings were also identified. All the buildings and features in these neighbourhoods are considered to be significant.

## Municipal Historic Site Designation:

The City's Heritage Bylaw outlines the procedure for designating Municipal Historic Sites. Designation means:

- **Recognition** – it is the process of formally recognizing the historical importance of a site or building.



- **Cooperation** – designation cannot happen without the consent of the site owner. The City and the site owner must agree on what will happen with the property. *You do not have to allow the public onto your property because it is a designated historic site.*
- **Preservation** – once a site is designated, the owner and the City work together to ensure the building will be there for future generations. It does not mean that no changes can be made. Some new materials and technologies may have to be used to ensure the site is preserved.
- **Assistance** – once a site is designated, and an agreement is signed with the owner, technical and financial assistance are available to help restore and maintain the site. This includes helping to upgrade the building's services and structure to prolong its life.

## Living and Working in a Municipal Historic Site:

It is a documented fact that heritage buildings last longer if they are used and maintained. Historic sites have to be comfortable if people are living in them and, as places of business, buildings have to be functional. There are many ways to do this while retaining the essential historic character of the building. Designation does not mean you have to be stuck with draughty windows and antique plumbing.

## Heritage Restoration Incentive:

Financial assistance is available for properties that have been designated as a Municipal Historic Site, and properties in the process of designation. Eligibility and conditions are specified in the City's Heritage Restoration Incentive Policy.

The incentive can be used for:

- **Restoration**
- **Enhancement**
- **Renovation to meet building code requirements**

The City will fund up to 50% of total project costs to a maximum of \$20,000. Eligibility to the incentive is renewed every ten years.

## Contact Us!

For information on the City's Heritage Registry, Bylaw, and Restoration Incentive Policy contact:

Planning Services  
City of Whitehorse  
[www.whitehorse.ca/heritage](http://www.whitehorse.ca/heritage)  
[planning.services@whitehorse.ca](mailto:planning.services@whitehorse.ca)  
(867) 668-8346



## More Help!

### Yukon Government Historic Properties Assistance Program (HPAP):

To help preserve Yukon's privately owned heritage resources, the Department of Tourism & Culture, Cultural Services Branch offers an assistance program to individuals, community groups, societies, Yukon First Nations and businesses. If your property is listed on the City's Heritage Registry, you are eligible for the financial assistance offered by the program. The Yukon Government can also fund properties that are not on the City's Registry, but those that are will receive preferential treatment.

Similar to the City's Heritage Restoration Incentive Program, the HPAP program makes contributions on a matching basis to applicants who own resources that are deemed to be historically significant, and whose plans for preservation of those places are in accordance with the program's guidelines. Technical advice is available on a limited basis to assist applicants to keep the project within historic conservation guidelines.

For information, contact:

Bruce Barrett  
Historic Sites Project Officer  
YG Cultural Services Branch  
Department of Tourism & Culture  
[www.tc.gov.yk.ca/hpa\\_program.html](http://www.tc.gov.yk.ca/hpa_program.html)  
[bruce.barrett@gov.yk.ca](mailto:bruce.barrett@gov.yk.ca)  
(867) 667-3463

## Hulland House, Success story:

Diana van Eyk is the former owner of the Hulland House on Wood Street. Diana applied to have the site designated as Municipal Historic Site in 2002 under the City's Heritage Bylaw. Diana received a Heritage Restoration Incentive from the City in the amount of \$8,776.68 in May 2003 toward the costs of repairing and upgrading the house.

Diana also applied to the Yukon Government HPAP and was awarded \$8,225.00 for repairs to the roof, foundation, and exterior home improvements. She also applied to the Yukon Housing Home Repair Program, which has a mandate of adding 15 years of life to existing housing stock by

providing low interest loans and partial subsidies. These are used to pay for renovations that will prolong the life of the house and bring it up to code.

These funds enabled Diana to install a new furnace, have the electrical redone, restore floors and bathroom, weatherproof the house, and repair the roof and foundation.

Because the house is a Designated Municipal Historic Site, equivalencies in the building code were allowed to help Diana have a sounder, more energy efficient home without losing its historic character.

