Heritage NL & Municipal Heritage Designation

Municipalities are often in the best position to protect heritage places. Municipalities issue building and demolition permits and they can protect heritage in municipal plans. Many communities across the province have adopted heritage regulations, established heritage advisory committees, and designated local heritage sites. Others have included provisions for heritage conservation areas within their municipal plans and development regulations.

Heritage NL's services for municipalities designating heritage sites:

- ✓ Can provide advice on establishing heritage advisory committees.
- ✓ Can provide examples of municipal heritage regulations which towns can modify to meet their individual needs.
- ✓ Can provide assistance with identifying and researching possible sites for municipal heritage designation.
- Can provide Statements of Significance which highlight why a municipal heritage site is of value and what elements must be protected.
- Will add municipal heritage designations to our online listing of heritage designations and commemorative sites. NOTE: this does not mean properties have protection or designation status beyond the town's designation.
- ✓ Will provide municipalities with a framed certificate for individual municipal designations for display in the town office.

Heritage designation and the Municipalities Act

Every municipality in Newfoundland and Labrador has the ability to designate important buildings, structures and lands as heritage sites under the Municipalities Act. The Act states:

Council regulations

414.(2) (dd) A council may make regulations designating real property as a heritage building, structure or land.

Heritage areas

200. (1) A building, structure or land designated by a council as a heritage building, structure or land shall not be demolished or built upon nor the exterior of the building or structure altered, except under a written permit of the council specifically authorizing the alteration and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the permit.

(2) A council may establish a heritage advisory committee to advise the council on regulations made with respect to heritage buildings, structures and lands and the preservation of the real property designated under that section.

Council orders

404. (1) (g) A council may make an order that a building constructed on heritage lands be removed and the lands restored and that the exterior of a heritage building or structure not altered in accordance with a permit be restored as required by the council.

