

TOWNSHIP OF WOOLWICH

BY-LAW NUMBER 60-2007

A by-law to designate the West Montrose Covered Bridge,
in the Township of Woolwich, in the Regional Municipality of Waterloo,
to be of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to the provisions of section 29 of the
Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, chapter O.18, as amended

WHEREAS section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended, authorizes the council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property within the municipality, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Township of Woolwich has caused to be served on the owner of the property known municipally as the West Montrose Covered Bridge in the Township of Woolwich, and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, a Notice of Intention to Designate as being of cultural heritage value or interest that part of the property more particularly described in Schedule A attached hereto and has caused such Notice of Intention to be published in the Saturday June 2, 2007 edition of the Observer, a newspaper having general circulation in the Township of Woolwich;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WOOLWICH ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the property known as the West Montrose Covered Bridge having the legal description set out in Schedule A (the "Property"), is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
2. The Clerk shall cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the Property in the proper land registry office.
3. The Clerk shall cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the Property and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause a notice of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Township of Woolwich as required by the Ontario Heritage Act.
4. Nothing in this By-law, including the statement of cultural heritage value and the description of heritage attributes, shall be construed so as to require the owner of the Property to make application for consent to make an alteration to the West Montrose Covered Bridge from time to time in the nature of:
 - (a) Minor maintenance and repair work including, without limitation, pothole patching, deck washing, bridge joint maintenance and graffiti removal; or
 - (b) Emergency repair work as determined to be reasonably necessary by, and in the sole discretion of, the Property owner.

Schedule A
The West Montrose Covered Bridge

Legal Description of the Property

Part Lot 71, part of the Grand River, identified as the West Montrose Covered Bridge on the sketch attached as Schedule B to By-law 60-2007 known municipally as West Montrose Covered Bridge, Township of Woolwich, Regional Municipality of Waterloo.

Description of Property

The West Montrose Covered Bridge is a late 19th century covered wooden bridge that spans the Grand River in the rural village of West Montrose. Connecting Hill Street, Covered Bridge Drive and Rivers Edge Drive, the bridge is just over 200 feet in length and covered with red-painted wood paneling and a gable roof.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The West Montrose Covered Bridge is the only remaining covered bridge in Ontario and the second oldest surviving bridge in the Region of Waterloo. It was designed by a local contractor, John Bear, who, with his brother Benjamin, constructed the bridge in 1881 as a replacement for an earlier open bridge at the same location. Originally, the bridge was constructed solely of wood. Over the course of more than a century, a number of improvements have been necessary to maintain the function and integrity of the bridge. The bridge materials today are a mix of wood, stone, asphalt, concrete and steel, representing not only the evolution of bridge technology but also the stewardship of the township, the region and the province. While the materials have been altered, however, the original form of the bridge designed by John Bear has been largely maintained.

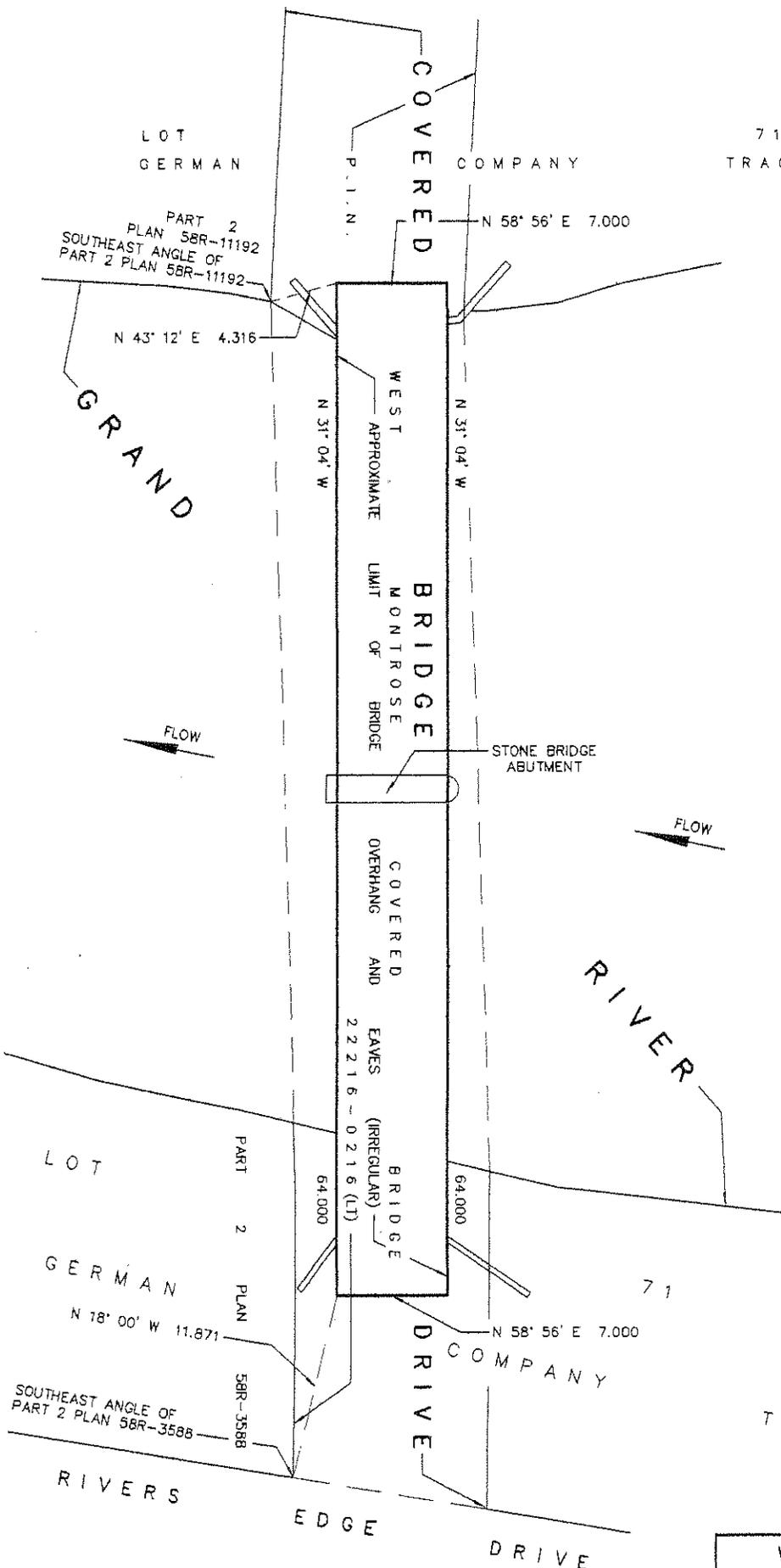
The 'Kissing Bridge', as it was appropriately nicknamed due to the intimacy and privacy that the covered bridge offered its travelers, is an iconic structure. It is a prominent and recognizable feature in arguably one of the most picturesque landscapes in Ontario. It is also representative of the early history of Woolwich Township and of an earlier time in the village.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of the bridge and which should be retained include:

- the original location of the bridge in the Village of West Montrose spanning the Grand River
- the original dimensions of the bridge, 208 feet in length and 17 feet wide
- the original truss configuration, a hybrid Queen Post – Howe timber configuration, reinforced by a recycled 1944 Bailey steel truss structure
- the central pier
- the wood exterior sheathing and interior paneling, punctuated by louvered window openings
- the shingled gable roof
- the system of illumination by decorative electric interior lamps
- views to and into the bridge from the north and south banks of the Grand River

THE COVERED BRIDGE OVER THE GRAND RIVER AT WEST MONTROSE
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WOOLWICH REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO



SCALE RATIO 1:400
METRIC

DATED AUGUST 3, 2007

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