



The Aurora Armoury Provincial Plaque 18 years on:

the elusive quest for ensuring historical accuracy

Ontario Heritage Trust, an agency of the Government of Ontario

Presentation to the
Heritage Advisory Committee

February 3rd 2025



Timeline 2007-2015

2007

DND & OHT
erect Provincial plaque



2014

Town purchases Armoury
from DND inheriting
responsibility for plaque



2015

Error on plaque observed
during Doors Open event



.....The oldest-purpose-built armoury
still used by the military in Ontario,
the Aurora drill shed is home to
elements of The Queen's York
Rangers (1st American Regiment)
(RCAC)"

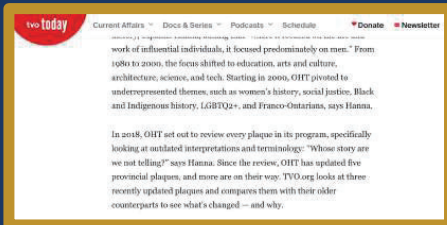
Ontario Heritage Trust, an agency of the Government of Ontario

Expect Better. Demand Better. Be Better.

Timeline 2018 - Present

2018

OHT sets out to review every plaque in its program



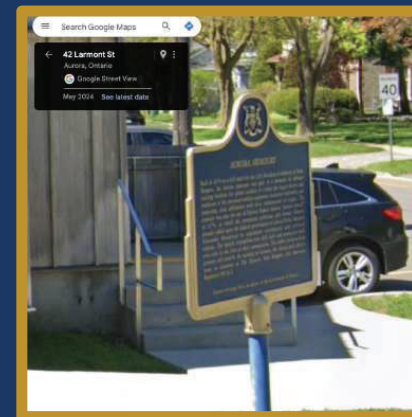
2018

Effort was taken to name an adjacent pathway as a nod to the QYR



Present

9 years and 4 months from the last time this issue was before this committee with nothing accomplished

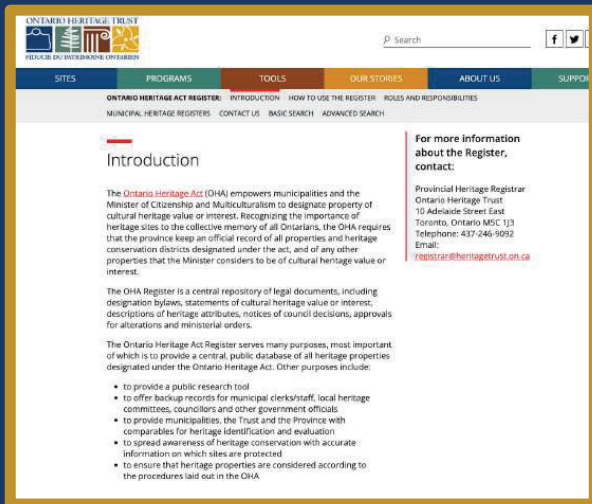


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This error appears to contravene the following:

1.) OHT's purpose outlined on their website:

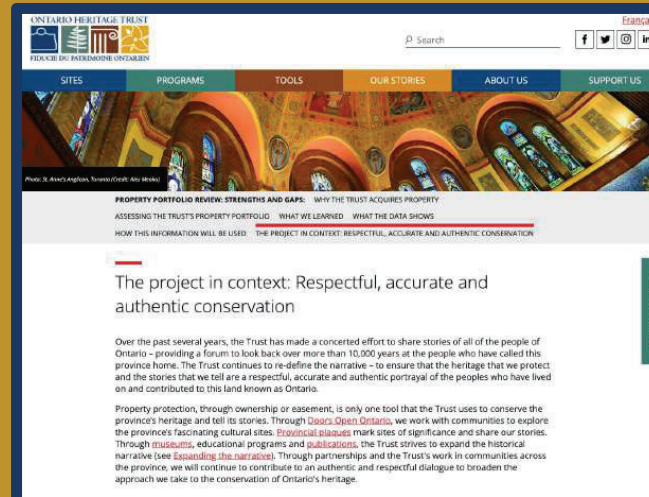
“to spread awareness with accurate information of heritage conservation on which sites are protected”



2.) OHT's role

in accurate conservation:

“to ensure that the heritage we protect and the stories that we tell are accurate”



3.) Town's Official Plan

2024 version:

Section 14.7 policy for Town-owned Cultural Heritage Resources, section b) :
maintain to a good standard to set a model for "high standard" heritage conservation

Town of Aurora Official Plan

January 2024

Potential Map provide guidance on addressing the policies of this Section. **New development and site alteration** shall be screened for archaeological potential using the York Region Archaeological Management Plan and Archaeological Potential Mapping.

14.7

Policies for Town-owned Cultural Heritage Resources

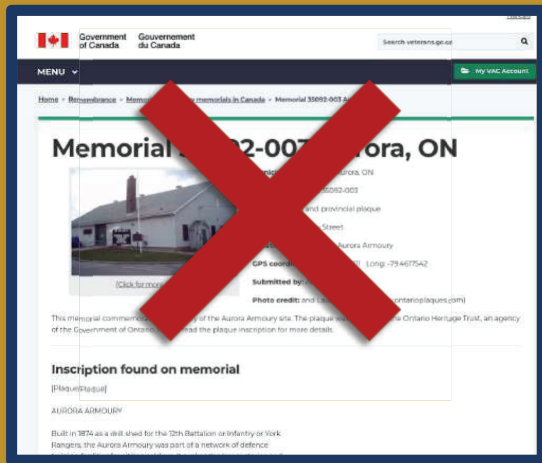
- The Town will designate all Town-owned cultural heritage resources of merit under the Ontario Heritage Act and prepare strategies for their care, management, and stewardship.
- The Town will protect and maintain all Town-owned heritage resources to a good standard to set a model for high standard heritage conservation.

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The misinformation is not contained to the physical plaque but online for researchers and tourists to stumble upon and spread:

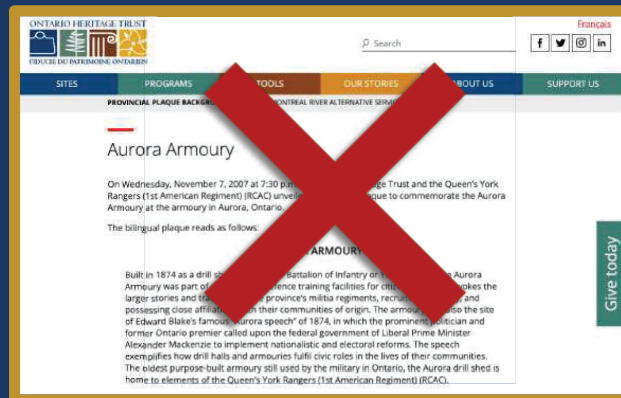
Digital footprint # 1

Inscription on
Government of Canada's website



Digital footprint # 2

Inscription on
OHT's website:



Digital footprint # 3

Inscription on
Wikipedia



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As this plaque has *stood in error for more years than it was correct* we request that the following be considered:

1.) that this error be corrected ASAP

and wording similar to the correction on the Wikipedia page be used:

“Former home to elements of The Queen’s York Rangers (1st American Regiment) (RCAC)”.

There is no advantage to reflect current use which can and is likely to change over time.

2.) uphold the town's obligations to reflecting heritage accurately and recommend that council direct staff to:

a.) proceed with ordering a replacement plaque through the OHT funded from the Heritage Fund.

The fund's bylaw encompasses use for situations like this, and there is sufficient balance to draw upon:

Heritage Fund	SP3	\$342.8
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and

b) follow up with regards to correction of digital footprints

and

c) report back to council, committee and community as to timeline and ETA for completion.



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Provincial Plaque**

Your source for
historical inaccuracy
since 2014

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