

## FHBRO HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT HERRIDGE LODGE, GATINEAU, QUEBEC

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FHBRO Number: **06-111**  
DFPR Number: **02139**  
Resource Name: **Herridge Lodge**  
Address: **Crescent Sector, Gatineau Park, Quebec**  
FHBRO Status: **“Recognized” Federal Heritage Building**  
Construction: **circa 1880**  
Designer: **Unknown**  
Original Function: **Residence**  
Current Function: **Ski lodge**  
Modifications: **Extension built on west side of lodge (date unknown); window on north side converted to an emergency exit, small roof built over main entrance, skylight added and metal roof replaced (circa 1980); crawl space filled and new concrete foundation (2006)**  
Custodian: **National Capital Commission**

### **Description of Historic Place**

The Herridge Lodge is a rustic two-storey cut log building with a floor plan that is almost square and a small extension on the west side. It is remarkable for its simple form, its metal gable roof and its symmetrically placed windows and doors with white surrounds on the elevations. The lodge is located in Gatineau Park on Trail No. 50, halfway between Lac Philippe and Pine Road. The designation is confined to the footprint of the building.

### **Heritage Value**

The Herridge Lodge was designated a “recognized” federal heritage building because of its historical associations, and its architectural and environmental values.

#### Historical Value

The Herridge Lodge was designed as a pioneer farmhouse and is a good illustration of the theme of the development of agricultural settlement related to the growth of the logging industry near riverside communities in the 19th century. Constructed in the 1880s, it is a relatively rare and old example of this phase of development in the Outaouais, which at the time was considered the hub of the logging industry in North America. The lodge is associated primarily with William Duncan Herridge, a former advisor to Prime Minister R.B. Bennett, who purchased the property in 1926 and kept it until 1951. The lodge illustrates in a practical way the three separate phases of development of the area that is now Gatineau Park: the first phase is link to agricultural settlement in the 19th century; the second phase is characterized by the development of the logging industry at the turn of the 20th century; and the third phase corresponds to the growth of the resort and recreation industry beginning in the 1920s until today.

#### Architectural Value

The Herridge Lodge is a good example of a common type of rustic house built by many pioneers in the

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19th century. It is a two-storey building made of dovetailed logs, with a floor plan that is almost square and a small one-storey log extension. It is an elegant and well-proportioned building. It was designed using a simple plan that could easily be adapted for multiple uses. The craftsmanship and materials are of good quality, and the building has remained in good condition for more than a century. The exposed timbers inside add to the rustic character of the building and attest to the simplicity of its construction.

### Environmental Value

The Herridge Lodge is compatible with its natural setting because of its size, materials and rustic and picturesque appearance. Located in a small clearing surrounded by dense forest, the lodge derives its character from its historical evolution from its initial use as a pioneer farmhouse to its current use as a recreational facility. Despite the addition and removal of outbuildings, the encroachment of vegetation and modifications to the access road, the site has retained its original character and the building blends into the landscape very well. Accessed by a trail which entrance is marked by two fieldstone posts, the lodge is well known to hikers, cyclists and skiers who use this area of Gatineau Park.

### **Character-defining Elements**

The following character-defining elements of the Herridge Lodge should be respected:

Its elements illustrating the theme of the development of agricultural settlement related to growth of the logging industry near riverside communities in the 19th century, in particular:

- Its cut log construction and its rustic character, which evoke the region's agricultural role in the 19th century.

Its good aesthetic and functional design and its good quality of materials and craftsmanship, which are reflected in:

- Its elegant proportions, its human scale and its simple massing;
- The rustic and picturesque quality of the lodge overall, which is conveyed by its construction of dovetailed cut logs, its metal gable roof with two chimneys and the white window frames;
- The symmetry of the facades, with one window on either side of the main door and four windows on the south side;
- The flexible, open ground-floor plan, with a foyer and a centre staircase leading to the second floor; and,
- The predominant use of wood inside and out.

Its compatibility with the natural character of the area, which is reflected in:

- Its size and the choice of materials;
- Its location in a natural setting; and,
- Its location along the trail linking Lac Philippe and Pine Road, which makes it accessible to hikers.

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For guidance on interventions, please refer to the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada*. For further information contact FHBRO.

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