

# AUCHMAR LEADER ADVOCATE

Volume 1, Issue 1

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## HERITAGE RENEWAL

### Auchmar's Allure

At Auchmar, hidden nooks and hideaways, stories and stonewalls and archaeological discoveries such as the clay pipe and the Mystery Girl of Auchmar connect citizens of all ages to the City of Hamilton past and present.

From the stables to the stonewall, the Gatehouse to the Grand Allee, and the orchards, gardens and woodlot, the past echoes, calling the future.

Over the past two years the Friends of Auchmar has partnered with Heritage Hamilton Foundation and Environment Hamilton among others and presented a series of panel discussions related to successful adaptive reuse, renewal and restoration of historic and heritage buildings and the economic benefits this achieves.

To date, the series includes The Economics of Heritage Preservation, The Ontario Heritage Trust – Easement on Auchmar, Current and Proposed Restoration Projects at the Auchmar Estate, and Preserving our Heritage – Improving the Environment.

One only needs to look at Dundas Public School or the Empires Times, or Alderlea and the Adamson Estate to see the wisdom in renewal.

Auchmar Estate beckons and awaits.



*The Mystery Girl of Auchmar*





## AUCHMAR NEWS

### **Canada 150 Program**

In the spring of 2015, the Canada 150 program was introduced.

The Friends of Auchmar Board had delegation status at the General Issues Committee meeting of June 3.

The Board presented a letter which asked Hamilton City Council to view the Auchmar Estate as a signature priority like Dundurn Castle was a few short decades ago.

The letter encouraged council to secure a portion of this funding for the future restoration of the Auchmar Estate.

### **Auchmar Roundtable**

In June 2015, Councilor Whitehead announced the Auchmar Roundtable discussions for the aim of keeping the Auchmar Estate in public ownership. The initial meeting in June was well attended. Currently, the date of next roundtable has not been set.

## THE PHOTO GALLERY

From the archival or new, pick the one you enjoy, the most unique, or the one unseen before. Let us know your favourite at [info@friendsofauchmar.ca](mailto:info@friendsofauchmar.ca)



## YOUR TURN: SPEAK OUT!

Your opinion matters and counts for the Auchmar Estate. Continued public ownership and the potential use of the estate by citizens near and far is feasible.

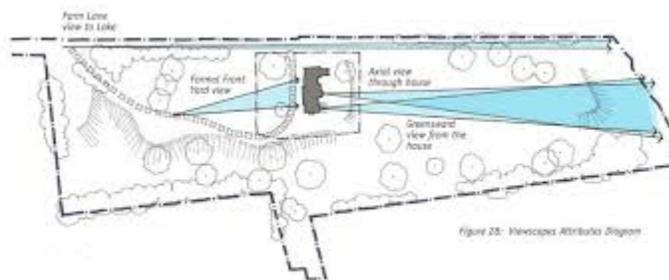
To help keep Auchmar in the minds of as many as possible and visible, here are two questions for your consideration.

### 1. *What do you want to see the Auchmar Estate used for?*

For any future adaptive re- use, renewal, and restoration, the conversation will eventually turn to securing funding.

### 2. *Would you support crowd funding as a way of raising money towards an Auchmar Estate restoration project?*

Have your say  
at [info@friendsofauchmar.ca](mailto:info@friendsofauchmar.ca)



## CONTACT US

If you're looking for more information, have an idea, or wish to join, The Friends of Auchmar can be reached at the following:



Website: [www.friendsofauchmar.ca](http://www.friendsofauchmar.ca)

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## ***EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!***

### ***BACK STORIES***

#### **THE STONEWALL**

The following was discovered in a discarded archive:

*“The City of Hamilton and the Ontario Heritage Trust have tentatively agreed on how to restore the 240 foot long stone wall around the coach house building of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Auchmar estate.” ....*

*....”A new gate will be installed near the entrance to the coach house and wooden doors will be added to the existing archway.” ....*

*The Hamilton Mountain News, Sept.27, 2013.*

So it began. A journey which would extend many seasons and yield archaeological discoveries. Robertson Restoration undertook the work. In the summer of 2014, The Hamilton Spectator published the following:



*“They’re calling it the Mystery Girl of Auchmar. Workers digging around the foundation of a garden wall at the city owned, 19<sup>th</sup> century estate near Fennell and West 5<sup>th</sup> struck something hard that turned out to be a stone carving of a woman’s head.” ....*

October 2015. Have you been by Auchmar? The work on the stonewall is well done. The manor house has been painted. Stop by to have a look, walk by the orchards or woodlot and imagine what could be.

#### **The Bell Gairdner Estate**



In September 2015, Alexander Temporale of A.T.A. Architects arranged through the City of Mississauga, a tour of the estate for the Friends of Auchmar board. There was vision held by the city council towards adaptive reuse of the estate which evolved into a sustaining special events venue for weddings and banquets among others.

What’s the importance of the Bell Gairdner Estate? It is a large property with a cultural and heritage component which has been repurposed for the present and future. The paradigm created with the Bell Gairdner may serve as a precedent for the Auchmar Estate.

Mr. Temporale is the recipient of the Lieutenant Governor’s Award of Excellence for the Holcim Waterfront Estate ( the Bell Gairdner Estate).