Recommendation:
That the wording for the Smith Family Cemetery commemorative plaque, hereto attached and marked as Appendix A to Report 09-001(HHB), be approved.

Background:
This plaque commemorates the Smith family as early pioneers of Glanford Township and their contributions to the War of 1812.

Regarded as the first settlers of Glanford Township, the Smith family quickly spread throughout the area, eventually occupying over 3000 acres of land. As the family grew, many of its members continued the family allegiance to the United Empire Loyalists, and assisted in the War of 1812. The remains of those who died in the war are buried in the Smith Family Cemetery.

The attached commemorative plaque text (Appendix A to Report 09-001(HHB)) was approved by the Joint Plaquing Sub-committee on 2 December 2008 and by the Hamilton Historical Board on 9 December 2008.

Financial Implications:
The funds for the manufacture and installation of the Smith Family Cemetery commemorative plaque are identified within the approved operating budget under the Manager of Museums and Heritage Presentation.

Analysis/Rationale:
It is the mandate of the City of Hamilton Joint Plaquing Sub-committee to recognize Hamilton sites of architectural, prehistoric and/or historical importance with commemorative plaques. Plaques may be awarded for the following reasons.

**Architectural Reasons** which may include age, style and/or location.

The building is noted for one or more of the following characteristics:

- an outstanding example of an architectural style
- an exceptionally early building
- an unusual building, type, structure, or composition
- the first or last of a kind
- an important visual landmark
- a special relationship between building and site
- the work of a major architect
- a group of buildings which form an important streetscape
- an exemplary restoration or adaptive re-use project

**Historical/Prehistoric Importance**

- close association with a noteworthy person (to recognize his/her lasting importance; selected because of his/her association with the place)
- close association with a noteworthy event
- effectively illustrates a significant, broad pattern of cultural, social, political military, economic or industrial history or pre-history

**Staff Consultation:**

Yes  X  No  □

Director, Culture Division, Community Services
Manager of Museums & Heritage Presentation, Community Services
Heritage Presentation Coordinator, Community Services
SMITH FAMILY CEMETERY

Jacob Smith (1739–1821) came to Canada from New Jersey in August of 1788 with his wife, Elizabeth (nee Lewis), and 13 surviving children. As a member of the Jersey Volunteers, who fought with the British during the American Revolution, he is considered to be a United Empire Loyalist. Travelling by foot and wagon, the Smith family crossed the Niagara River at Lewiston and became the first settlers in Glanford Township. Their homestead cabin on Lot 4, Concession 1 survived until the 1950s. Over time, the Smith family was granted 3,280 acres of land, mostly in Ancaster, Glanford and Saltfleet townships.

Jacob set aside this cemetery for the burials of his family members and their relatives. His son, Lewis, and grandson, Mathias, both died in the War of 1812. They are buried here with approximately fifty other Smith settlers. Due to the gradual dispersal of the Smith descendants over the years, the cemetery fell into disrepair. Several headstones have been recovered, but most have been destroyed.

Hamilton Historical Board
City of Hamilton
2009

Word Count 176

Sources:
2. Information submitted by Barbara Smith Nelson, UE.
3. Input by Gloria Oakes, UE, Hamilton Branch, UEL Association of Canada.
4. Field research by Jim Green, JPSC member. (He found the missing headstones.)
7. Wentworth County Illustrated 1875 Historical Atlas, p. 73.
8. Internet research by HHB member, Rob Hamilton. (He established that the modern map of New Jersey has no place called Amwell Sussex Co. as claimed in original submissions. E. & W. Amwell appear in Hunterdon County, New Jersey.)
9. JPSC research lead, Robin McKee.

Wording accepted by HHB on Dec. 9, 2008.

R. Williamson
Chairman, JPSC