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December 9, 2021

VIA REGULAR MAIL

Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Attention: Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear Ontario Heritage Trust:

2021 12 08



**RE: Notice of Intention to Designate:
The Earl Rowe Property
Part of Lot 1, Concession 10 municipally known as 4304-4306 Line 10
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury**

On March 5, 2019, the Council of Bradford West Gwillimbury resolved to give notice of intent to designate 4304-4306 Line 10, under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, as it is of cultural heritage value and interest.

The purpose of this letter, as prescribed in Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act is to give Notice of Intent to Designate to the Owner and Ontario Heritage Trust. Additionally, Notice of Intent to Designate has been included in the December 9, 2021 edition of the Bradford West Gwillimbury Topic.

Please see the attached 'Notice of Intention to Designate' which includes the required description of property, statement of cultural heritage value and description of heritage attributes.

We trust the above is satisfactory. Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Brandon Slopach'.

Brandon Slopach, MES
Senior Planner

Attachment 1: Notice of Intention to Designate

***NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 29 OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT,
R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, AS AMENDED***

The Earl Rowe Property (circa 1870-1920)

Part of Lot 1, Concession 10
municipally known as 4304-4306 Line 10
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, on March 5, 2019, resolved to give notice of intent to designate 4304-4306 Line 10, under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, as it is of cultural heritage value and interest.

4304-4306 Line 10 has design, historical, and contextual significance. The property is a representative example of a late 19th century/early 20th century Ontario farmstead. The farm structures, fields, and circulation patterns form part of a landscape punctuated by trees, bushes, and footpaths that give the property a human scale characteristic of pre-industrial farmsteads. The farmhouse is representative of the Gothic Revival architecture style that was popular among farms in the late 19th century. Typical of the style, it is one-and-a-half-storeys, built on a T-shaped plan, with a side gable roof and centrally placed gable featuring an arched window opening. The façade includes a central entryway with a rectangular transom and half side-lights. The U-shaped barn complex, composed of three Wisconsin-style barns, is representative of a plank framed truss roof system that advanced the structural abilities of barns and changed barn storage and usage in the 20th century.

The property holds historical value in its association with the Honorable William Earl Rowe who owned the property from 1917 until his death in 1984, and occupied the property as he became a prominent political figure. His provincial political career spanned four decades and included serving as the 20th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario from 1963–1968. Rowe was also a prominent member of the community in Newton Robinson and the Township of West Gwillimbury. He served as the youngest Reeve of the Township of West Gwillimbury in 1919. In addition to his political career, the property exhibits Rowe's strong associations with the organization/institution of Ontario harness racing. Rowe ran a successful horse breeding and harness racing business, utilizing the barn and grounds for breeding and training. He served as President of the Canadian Standardbred Horse Society twice and was the honorary Director of the Ontario Harness Horsemen's Association. Earl and his son Bill Rowe were founders of two harness racetracks: the Windsor Raceway and Barrie Raceway.

The Rowe Farm property demonstrates the work of local builders, the Merrick Brothers, who were significant to the Newton Robinson community as well as the Township of Bradford West Gwillimbury. The farmhouse was constructed by John and Isaac Merrick, well-known local builders who contributed to the design of residential and civic buildings and were integral to the development of Newton Robinson. The Merrick Brothers built churches, schools and many houses in the area including the Newton Robinson United Church where Earl Rowe is now buried, as well as the Rich Hill Church and St. John's Coulson's Hill Church.

The farm structures, circulation patterns, and mature vegetation framing the farm complex at 4304-4306 Line 10 maintain the agricultural character of historical farmsteads in the area surrounding Newton Robinson.

Heritage Attributes

Key elements that define the heritage character of the subject property include:

- Nineteenth-century Gothic Revival farmhouse:
 - Massing of the original T-shaped plan farmhouse, with paired chimneys (excluding the mid-to-late 20th century rear addition);
 - Side gable roof with centrally placed gable featuring an arched window opening;
 - Three-bay façade, two-bay side elevations;
 - Centrally placed entryway with rectangular transom and half side-lights;
 - West elevation gable with a wooden decorative finial and arched window opening;
 - Rectangular window openings with brick voussoirs and wooden sills; and,
 - Brick construction.
- A water well, constructed of large colourful river stones;
- U-shaped barn (composed of three Wisconsin-style barns and two connected outbuildings):
 - Plank framed barn with a truss roof construction;
 - Gambrel roof;
 - Roofline ventilators;
 - Connected tower silo;
 - Projection of the hay sling;
 - Three-over-six windows; and,
 - Siting in the topography to create multiple ground level access points.
- Two detached farmstead outbuildings (one of which is a pump house), and a detached garage, contributing to the agricultural complex on site;
- Circulation patterns (footpaths and driveways) between the farmhouse and outbuildings;
- Siting and layout of the farmstead complex (farmhouse, outbuildings, footpaths and driveways) in relation to, and in close proximity with, the stream and wetland area that extends through the south east corner of the property (excluding the agricultural fields to the north);
- Mature trees and vegetation that frame the farmstead complex, along Line 10;
- Siting within a rural landscape and proximity to other farms as well as the adjacent community of Newton Robinson.

Any objection to this designation must be filed in writing within 30 days of the date of publication of the notice of intention, being no later than January 8, 2022.

Objections should be directed to:

Rebecca Murphy, Director of Corporate Services/Town Solicitor/Clerk
100 Dissette Street, Units 7 & 8,
P.O. Box 100
Bradford ON L3Z 2A7

Requests for additional information regarding the property and the designation process
may be directed to:

Brandon Slopach, Senior Planner
905-778-2055 ext. 1402
bslopach@townofbwg.com