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Development Services  
180 Kent Street West  
Lindsay ON K9V 2Y6  
705-324-9411 ext. 1366  
[heritage@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:heritage@kawarthalakes.ca)

March 27, 2023

Ontario Heritage Trust  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J2

**RECEIVED**  
2023/03/27  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

Please find enclosed a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property known municipally as 15 Balsam Lake Drive, Geographic Township of Bexley.

The last date for objections is April 28, 2023. If no objections are filed by 4:00 p.m. on that date with the clerk of the municipality, Council will proceed to pass a bylaw designating the property at the next available Council meeting.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Emily Turner  
Economic Development Officer – Heritage Planning  
705-324-9411 ext. 1366  
[eturner@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:eturner@kawarthalakes.ca)

## Notice: Intention to Designate Property under the Ontario Heritage Act

Take Notice that the Council of the City of Kawartha Lakes, on March 21, 2023, passed a resolution of intent to designate the following property under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.18, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest:

15 Balsam Lake Drive, Geographic Township of Bexley  
PT LT 8, 7 CON N PORTAGE RD BEXLEY BEING PARTS 3 AND 4, 57R2197, ;  
S/T INTEREST IN R143084; KAWARTHA LAKES

### Statement of Reasons for Designation

#### Design and Physical Value

15 Balsam Lake Drive contains a representative example of a late nineteenth century rural Gothic Revival church. Consistent with the adaptation of the style in North America, the church employs the key characteristics of a Gothic Revival church of this type, particularly as constructed by Anglican congregations, including lancet windows, a steeply pitched gable roof, and a chancel. The church was constructed in 1861 in Oakwood and later moved to this location. The property is also representative of an evolved continuing cemetery landscape. The property includes an active municipal cemetery as well as the church associated with it where burials have occurred since the end of the nineteenth century. Taken together, these elements form a representative example of a cemetery landscape in rural Ontario which includes both historic and ongoing burials.

#### Historical and Associative Value

The property has historical and associative value for its association with both the development of the Anglican Church in Bexley Township in the late nineteenth century and its relationship to businessman and railway magnate George Laidlaw. The church is one of two Anglican churches constructed in Bexley Township in the nineteenth century and speak to the demographics of the township during this period. The church and cemetery were constructed on lands directly adjacent to the Laidlaw Estate, purchased by George Laidlaw who made his fortune in grain trade and the railway before retiring to his estate on Balsam Lake. The church was attended by the Laidlaw family from its opening in 1885 and its directly associated with this prominent local family.



### Contextual Value

15 Balsam Lake Drive has contextual value in its role as part of the wider historical landscape demonstrating the late nineteenth century development of Bexley Township, as well as part of the extant landscape of the former Laidlaw Estate. As one of the primary institutional properties in the local area, the church and cemetery maintain and support the historic character of the surrounding rural region which contains a range of historic residential, agricultural and commercial properties. Similarly, the property is related to the adjacent Laidlaw Estate, which contains a range of historic resources as the institutional structure associated with it. It is also a local landmark as the former local Anglican church and cemetery and for its prominent position near the intersection of Portage Road and Balsam Lake Drive.

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available at the City's Economic Development Department. Any objection to this designation must be filed within 30 days of March 30, 2023. Objections should be directed to: Cathie Richie, Clerk, City of Kawartha Lakes, P.O. Box 9000, 26 Francis Street, Lindsay, ON K9V 5R8.

Any inquiries may be directed to:

Economic Development Officer- Heritage Planning  
City of Kawartha Lakes,  
180 Kent Street West, Lindsay, ON K9V 2Y6  
(705) 324-9411 ext.1366  
[eturner@kawarthalakes.ca](mailto:eturner@kawarthalakes.ca)

The last date for objection is 4:00 p.m. on April 28, 2023.