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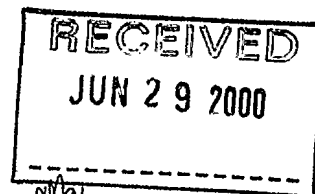
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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT,  
R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18  
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS  
646 PAISLEY ROAD  
IN THE CITY OF GUELPH,  
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Wellington



**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

TO: Ontario Heritage Foundation  
The Ontario Heritage Centre  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1J3

AND: [REDACTED]  
646 Paisley Road  
Guelph, ON N1K 1A4

**TAKE NOTICE THAT** the Council of the Corporation of the City of Guelph intends to designate portions of the property known as 646 Paisley Road as a building of architectural and historical value and interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

**STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION**

This fine stone mansion was once part of a large park-like estate just west of Guelph's original boundary with the Township of Guelph. Named "Maxwelton" by its first owner, Thomas Sandilands, the building features elements of the Italianate architectural style including a gabled projecting centrepiece, elaborate stonework, twin flue stone chimneys and bracketed eaves. Quarry-faced corner quoins provide textural contrast with the smooth ashlar finish of the building's façade. Decorative exterior features include semi-circular window heads embellished with carved stone mouldings and an unusual bay window of stone. Inside, the building features a wide centre hall and staircase and decorative ceiling mouldings in many of the main rooms and halls.

Thomas Sandilands, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, purchased the property from the Canada Company in 1844. Around 1848, he built the original two-storey limestone dwelling that faced north towards Paisley Road. By 1860, a major addition to the original house was completed with the main front wall of the dwelling now facing west. Sandilands, a successful merchant for many years, was appointed agent of the Gore Bank – the first bank agency opened in Guelph – in 1840, eventually becoming manager. Sandilands is also credited with the establishment of the first lending library in Guelph. Upon his death in 1865, Thomas' son, George, was appointed manager of the Guelph branch of the Gore Bank and inherited the property. In 1877 he resigned from this position in order to found the Central Bank, which he operated and managed until 1887 when it failed amidst a deep depression. In 1890, he opened the Trader's Bank on Wyndham Street and acted as manager until his death in 1899. In 1882, George Sandilands married Annie Grant, the niece of Colonel William Alexander, owner of the neighbouring farm across Paisley Road to the north, known as "Ellenburn". For a number of years, George and Annie Sandilands jointly held both properties until "Maxwelton" was sold in 1889.

Following a number of short-term owners, James Bowman purchased the property in 1895, renaming it "Elm Park Farm". Upon his death in 1944, James Bowman was considered one of the most prominent livestock breeders in North America, raising prize-winning Aberdeen-Angus cattle, Clydesdale horses and Suffolk Down sheep. He was a Director of the Canadian National Exhibition for thirty-four years and also served terms as a Director of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and the Guelph Provincial Winter Fair. He was inducted into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame in 1962.

The property was significantly reduced in size from 100 acres to just over 4 acres in 1944. Later owners include [REDACTED] (1944-1962) and [REDACTED] (1962-1972).

Between 1972 and 1979 the property was further reduced in size when a portion of the land was acquired for the Hanlon Expressway and for a townhouse complex on the westerly edge of the property. The owner at the time of designation, [REDACTED] purchased the house in 1979 and has continued to restore the dwelling and associated property.

The designation includes all exterior limestone walls of the building (with the exception of the small one-storey stone addition and its roof line on the north-west side of the dwelling, dating from the

**Notice of Intention to Designate  
646 Paisley Road, Guelph, ON**

1960s), all window and door openings on these designated walls and their associated decorative stone surrounds, the bay window of stone, the transom and sidelights at the main front door, the stone chimneys, the roofline over the designated portion of the building, including the wood brackets and eaves, and the front porch (which dates from 1911). Inside, the designation covers the main staircase and the decorative ceiling mouldings throughout the dwelling.

**Any person may**, before the 31st day of July, 2000, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the City of Guelph, notice of objection to this proposed designation, together with a statement of reasons for the objection and all relevant factors. If a notice of objection is received, the Council of the City of Guelph shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

**DATED** at Guelph, Ontario, this 27th day of June, 2000.

Lois Giles  
City Clerk  
City Hall  
59 Carden Street  
Guelph, Ontario  
N1H 3A1