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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT  
R.S.O. 1990 CHAPTER 0.18 AND  
262 ST. CLAIR AVENUE WEST  
CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

RECEIVED  
MAY 4 - 2000  
CONSERVATION REVIEW  
BOARD

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

Great Gulf (St. Clair) Ltd.  
250 Lesmill Road  
Toronto, Ontario  
M3B 2T5

Ontario Heritage Foundation

Take notice that the Council of the City of Toronto, on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of April, 2000, decided to designate the lands and buildings known municipally as 262 St. Clair Avenue West (Alexander Davidson House) (Midtown).

Short Statement of Reasons for Designation

The property at 262 St. Clair Avenue West is identified for architectural and historical reasons. The house was constructed in 1911-1912 according to the designs of Toronto architect J. Wilson Gray. The property was developed for Dr. Alexander Davidson, a surgeon at Toronto Western Hospital. In 1925, Dr. William Belfry Hendry, Chief of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Toronto General Hospital and a professor of medicine at the University of Toronto, acquired the site. The house was named the Hendry Building following its conversion to medical offices in 1946.

The Alexander Davidson House is designed in the Edwardian Classical style. The building is constructed of red brick and trimmed with brick, artificial stone and wood. The rectangular plan features a 2 ½ -storey main block flanked by a two-storey west wing. The steeply-pitched gable roof has extended eaves, a brick and stone chimney and, on the south and north slopes, wood dormers. On the principal (south) façade, a 2 ½ -storey pedimented entrance with quoins, coping, brackets, keystones and sidelights contains a single-leaf wood door has bronze hardware. A recessed stone porch displays stone, clay and wood cladding with period light fixtures and Classical elements. There are three sets of French doors and flat-headed window openings with double-sash wood windows. The east wall features a truncated gable, a recessed entrance porch with a

single-leaf wood door, and single and two-storey bay windows. The rear (north) elevation displays flat-headed window openings. The west wing has a gable roof with returned eaves and, on the south and west walls, casement windows.

Significant interior elements are found in the main-floor entrance hall and drawing room and the second-floor hall and foyer. The entrance hall displays period light fixtures, panelled walls and doors, and a plaster cornice and ceiling. The drawing room has wood panelling, cornice and entablatures, and a plaster ceiling. In both rooms, fireplaces have wood, brick, tile and metal detailing and period light fixtures. A wood staircase rises to the second floor where the foyer and hall displays wood wainscoting and doors. The foyer has a period light fixture, while the hall has a vaulted plaster ceiling.

The property at 262 St. Clair Avenue West is located on the northwest corner of St. Clair Avenue and Russell Hill Road. The house is set back from and elevated above St. Clair Avenue in a landscaped setting with mature trees. The property is indicative of the residential properties that lined St. Clair Avenue West in the Forest Hill neighbourhood. The property has long associations with the Toronto medical community as the residence of two doctors and, during the last half century, as medical offices. The architectural design is highlighted by intact interior period elements.

Heritage Toronto's Heritage Property Report (Long Statement of Reasons for Designation) respecting the property is available for viewing at the City Clerk's Division at City Hall and the offices of Heritage Toronto.

Notice of an objection to the designation may be served on the City Clerk, c/o Frances Pritchard, Committee Administrator, Toronto Community Council, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Tower, City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, Toronto M5H 2N2 within thirty days of the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, 2000, setting out the reason(s) for the objection and all relevant facts.

Dated at Toronto this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2000.



Novina Wong  
City Clerk



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