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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18, AS  
AMENDED, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES AT THE FOLLOWING  
MUNICIPAL ADDRESS IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays intends to designate the following municipal address as being of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18, as amended.

**1027 CHARLIE THOMPSON ROAD**

**Description of Property**

Beacon Lodge is located on Charlie Thompson Road in the village of Dwight on the charming Lake of Bays.

**Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

Beacon Lodge, a Stewart family cottage, was built in 1924 on the Stony Heights property. The cedar frame cottage embodies rich historical associative value as it was one of three cottages conceptualized by Ruth Quinby Stewart ("Mother Ruth") that increased accommodation for friends and family during the busy summer months. The vernacular building style of Beacon Lodge is representative of the typical housing development in Dwight during that era; however the cottage uniquely exhibits a high degree of craftsmanship displayed in the two original cobblestone chimneys and massive cobblestone fireplace.

The cottage is home to many cherished Stewart family items that create a distinguishing atmosphere that is representative of life for the early to most recent Stewart generations. Family pictures, artwork, furniture and antique pieces provide a glimpse into the many lives of the Stewart descendents who have enjoyed their summer stay in Beacon Lodge. Several authentic late Victorian furniture pieces originally belonged to Joseph William Alexander Stewart and are in fact older than the cottage itself.

The cottage is a landmark on Lake of Bays, as the 'beacon' of light it reflects on Lake of Bays is the source of its name – though that is debated. The opposing theory is that the name Beacon Lodge is derived from the first three letters of the names of Josephine Stewart Welch's daughters, Beatrice and Connie. The contextual value of Beacon Lodge is further demonstrated through the visual and historical link to the tennis court and adjacent Stewart cottage, Cobble Cottage, as well as the other Stewart family cottages located nearby on Dwight Beach Road.

**Description of Heritage Attributes**

- Interior Features:
  - ✓ A Western Foundry Limited woodstove that was originally used in the cottage;
  - ✓ Hand-crafted cobblestone fireplace with rope mortar and stone shelving details on either side handcrafted by Tom Asbury;
  - ✓ Second story loft with open windows looking over the ground floor living room conducive to heating by woodstove;
  - ✓ Interior walls lined with original cedar wood paneling;
  - ✓ Vaulted ceilings with original tongue and groove wood planking and purlin roofing;
  - ✓ Original awning windows with wavy, Depression glass in tall, narrow panes;
  - ✓ Rustic carved pine wood dining table and dining chairs with matching hutch made by Hunt Country Furniture of Wingdale, New York purchased by Mary Stewart and Gordon Allen around 1950;

- ✓ Antique ladies writing desk manufactured by A.M. Co., No 136 around 1920;
  - ✓ Four spindle backed dining chairs made by B & S Co., bearing the signature of J.W. A. Stewart on the label, dated around 1900 to 1910;
  - ✓ Commode chair manufactured by Dillingham Mfg. Co., Sheboygan, Wisconsin;
  - ✓ Trestle side table dated around 1900 to 1910;
  - ✓ Tilt-top three legged oval side table, dated pre-1900;
  - ✓ Ceramic based table lamp with silk lampshade by L. Katon Beaux Arts, France, dated around 1920;
  - ✓ Two kerosene portable heaters: Model 525. Perfection Products Co., Waynesboro, Georgia, 1912, and the "Valor" model 525-T (date unknown);
  - ✓ A collection of old books including "The House of Seven Gables" by Nathaniel Hawthorne, Houghton Mifflin, 1893; "Thackeray's Works; The Virginians." American Publishers Co. 1859; Balzac's Complete Works 1-18 Volumes; "Vanity Fair," William Makepeace Thackeray, Harper & Bros. 1899;
  - ✓ Unique antique items such as irons, chamber pots, an old bell, cookware, china and family photographs;
  - ✓ Double split doors leading into the dining room;
  - ✓ Watercolour paintings of Muskoka dating from the early 1960's to mid-1970's by Gordon Allen, a Stewart family relative.
- Exterior Features:
    - ✓ Two storey cedar wood frame, gable roofed cottage with loft constructed by local builder Tom Asbury;
    - ✓ Cove drop novelty siding;
    - ✓ Balloon framing indicative of the cottage construction date;
    - ✓ Two original field stone chimneys with rope mortar and local cobblestone.

Objections to the proposed designation must be received by the Clerk of the Township of Lake of Bays by Registered Mail or hand-delivered together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, not later than **4:00 p.m.** on the **1<sup>st</sup>** day of **October 2010**. Objections will be referred to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and report.

Michelle Percival, Clerk,  
1012 Dwight Beach Road,  
Dwight, Ontario P0A 1H0

For further information please contact:  
Carrie Sykes, (705) 635-2272, ext 236  
Or at [csykes@lakeofbays.on.ca](mailto:csykes@lakeofbays.on.ca)

As well, please be advised that a short-form copy of the Notice will be published in the September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 and September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 editions of the Huntsville Forester newspaper and a formal copy of the Notice will be posted at the following sites:

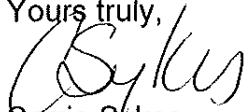
- Township website at [www.lakeofbays.on.ca/public\\_notices.htm](http://www.lakeofbays.on.ca/public_notices.htm);
- Dwight library and
- Dwight Coffee Shop.

Council intends to pass the Heritage Designation By-law, after 30 days from publication of the notice, at the October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Council meeting.

I trust this submission to be satisfactory.

Should you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me at [csykes@lakeofbays.on.ca](mailto:csykes@lakeofbays.on.ca) or by phone at (705) 635-2272, ext. 236.

Yours truly,



Carrie Sykes  
Deputy Clerk

Enclosure(s)