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April 29, 2015

File: B-8600-0234, B-8600-0235, B-8600-0236

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

**Re: Notice of Intent to Designate: Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery (185-201 Bond Street West), Bible Christian Cemetery (39 Columbus Road West) and the Methodist Cemetery (65 Columbus Road East)**

Pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18, please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Oshawa intends to designate the following properties as a properties of cultural heritage value or interest:

1. Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery, 185-201 Bond Street West (see Attachment 1);
2. Methodist Cemetery, 65 Columbus Road East (see Attachment 2); and
3. Bible Christian Cemetery, 39 Columbus Road West (see Attachment 3).

Reasons for the Proposed Designation

Reasons for the proposed designations are identified in the attached Designation Statement and Description for each property.

The full particulars of the Reasons for Designation for each of the above noted properties are available for inspection in the Planning Services Branch, 8th Floor at 50 Centre Street South between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ANY PERSON MAY, ON OR BEFORE THE 29<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY 2015, SEND BY REGISTERED MAIL OR DELIVER TO THE CITY CLERK, a Notice of Objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of their reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the City of Oshawa will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and a report.

If you require further information or clarification, please contact me at the address shown or by telephone at (905) 436-3311, extension 2945 or at [mkish@oshawa.ca](mailto:mkish@oshawa.ca).



Margaret Kish, MCIP, RPP, Senior Planner  
Development Services Department

MK/j  
Attachments

c. Sandra Kranc, City Clerk

**185-201 Bond Street West  
Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery  
Designation Statement and Description**

**Location and Description of Property:**

The Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery is located at 185-201 Bond Street West on the south side of Bond Street West and across from Arena Street within the City of Oshawa. The cemetery holds the remnants of 130 gravestones that have been arranged in cairns forming the shape of a six-pointed star radiating from a central column bearing a memorial plaque. Although many of the stones date prior to 1850, including seven from the period 1816-1817, the majority of the stones are dated between 1850 and 1860.

**Legal Description:**

The property is located at 185-201 Bond Street West and is legally described as PT LT 17 N/S KING ST PL H50002 OSHAWA AS IN OSP18775 EXCEPT D461846 & D511781; OSHAWA.

**Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:**

The Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery is of cultural heritage value because it reflects the early history of the City of Oshawa and holds the memorials of some of Oshawa's earliest pioneer families including some prominent citizens. The chronology of the cemetery's ownership expresses the evolution of some of the church congregations within the City from the Wesleyan Methodist Church through to the United Church. Additionally, the Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery serves as an example of how local organizations in a community came together to save an important historical monument to the citizens of bygone days.

At one time known to many as "God's Acre", the cemetery's earliest recorded burial is that of Sabine Dearborn in 1830. The presence of stones recording much earlier deaths suggests that the first burial may have been much earlier. Dates on the gravestones suggest that the cemetery land was in use as a burial ground between approximately 1816 and 1906. The gravestones in the Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery provide the settlement, birth and death patterns, and family histories of the early inhabitants of the City of Oshawa as well as being an expression of a form of art and culture reflective of this period of time.

The Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery holds the remnants of 130 gravestones that have been arranged in cairns forming the shape of a six-pointed star radiating from a central column bearing a memorial plaque. Although many of the stones date prior to 1850, including seven from the period 1816-1817, the majority of the stones are dated between 1850 and 1860. The park-like setting, natural environment and sacred quality of the cemetery create an oasis of peace in the middle of a busy city.



## **Attachment 1**

The Pioneer Memorial Garden Cemetery contains one of the earliest gravestones in Oshawa. It is a crudely carved example containing no motifs that was most likely hand carved. The letters appear uneven and biographical information is limited containing only the name Richard Adams and his date of death: July 17, 1817.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes:**

The defining heritage attributes of the property are:

- The original monuments and markers with their variety of size, motifs, materials, inscriptions and current placement within the cemetery;
- The original location of some monuments and markers with their surviving inscriptions;
- The placement of the monuments and markers within the cairns arranged in the shape of a six-pointed star radiating from a central column;
- The wrought iron gates and fieldstone wall built at the entrance into the cemetery;
- the plaque commemorating the Memorial Garden unveiling;
- the plaque commemorating the erection of the stone wall;
- The location, dimensions and orientation of the cemetery in relation to the encompassing community; and
- The park-like setting and natural features of the site.

**65 Columbus Road East**

**Methodist Cemetery**

**Designation Statement and Description**

**Location and Description of Property:**

The Methodist Cemetery is located at 65 Columbus Road East on the south side of the road and approximately 400 metres east of Simcoe Street North in the Hamlet of Columbus within the City of Oshawa. The cemetery holds the remnants of 44 gravestones dating from the period 1845-1860 which represents Columbus's earliest Methodist settlers and some prominent citizens. Many of the gravestones have been placed in an informal mound-like cairn.

**Legal Description:**

The property is located at 65 Columbus Road East, City of Oshawa and is legally described as LT 23 PL H50017 EAST WHITBY; PT LT 22 1/2 PL H50017 EAST WHITBY AS IN CO205400; OSHAWA.

**Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:**

The Methodist Cemetery is of cultural heritage value because it reflects the early history of the community known today as the Hamlet of Columbus and holds the remains and memorials of Columbus's earliest settlers and some prominent citizens.

In use between approximately 1845 and 1927, the cemetery contains the remnants of 44 gravestones. All of these gravestones exemplify local craftsmanship and the use of local styles and materials, most notably marble and granite. The majority of the stones date from the period 1850-1860.

The gravestones in the Methodist Cemetery provide the settlement, birth and death patterns, and family histories of the early inhabitants of the Hamlet of Columbus. In addition, the gravestones are a form of artistic and cultural expression reflective of this period of time.

**Description of Heritage Attributes:**

The defining heritage attributes of the property are:

- The original monuments and markers with their variety of size, motifs, materials, inscriptions and current placement within the cemetery;
- The original location of some monuments and markers with their surviving inscriptions;
- The placement of the monuments and markers within the informal mound-like cairn;
- The location in relation to the original Methodist Church in the community that stood west of the present cemetery. This is the original church yard;
- The location, dimensions and orientation of the cemetery in relation to the encompassing community; and
- The park-like setting and natural features of the site.



**39 Columbus Road West  
Bible Christian Cemetery  
Designation Statement and Description**

**Location and Description of Property:**

The Bible Christian Cemetery is located at 39 Columbus Road West on the south side of the road and approximately 400 metres west of Simcoe Street North in the Hamlet of Columbus within the City of Oshawa. The cemetery holds 91 gravestones. Many of the gravestones are flat lawn style stones that are formed into a patio style cairn on the north side of the cemetery. Arranged along the east side of the patio cairn are 12 upright gravestones. There are also gravestones scattered throughout the cemetery.

**Legal Description:**

The property is located at 39 Columbus Road West, City of Oshawa and is legally described as LT 2 PL H50017 EAST WHITBY EXCEPT D423330; OSHAWA.

**Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:**

The Bible Christian Cemetery is of cultural heritage value because it reflects the early history of the community of Columbus and holds the memorials of Columbus's earliest settlers including some prominent citizens that were associated with the Bible Christian Faith. Many of the individuals recorded on the headstones were those that contributed to the building of the Bible Christian Church in Columbus.

In use between approximately 1818 and 1920, the cemetery contains 91 gravestones. Many of the gravestones are flat lawn style stones that are formed into a patio style cairn on the north side of the cemetery. Arranged along the east side of the patio cairn are 12 upright gravestones. There are also gravestones scattered throughout the cemetery. All of these gravestones exemplify local craftsmanship and the use of local styles and materials, most notably marble and granite. In addition, the gravestones are a form of artistic and cultural expression reflective of this period of time.

The gravestones in the Bible Christian Cemetery provide the settlement, birth and death patterns, and family histories of the early inhabitants of the Hamlet of Columbus.

In 1848 the Bible Christians had close to one hundred children attending Sabbath School at the original Bible Christian Church that stood east of the present cemetery in the Hamlet of Columbus. This was most likely the largest Sunday School Service in the area and in June 1855 the first Canada Conference of the Bible Christian Church was convened in the Hamlet of Columbus.

**Description of Heritage Attributes:**

The defining heritage attributes of the property are:

- The original monuments and markers with their variety of size, motifs, materials, inscriptions and current placement within the cemetery;
- The original location of some monuments and markers with their surviving inscriptions;
- The placement of the monuments and markers within the informal patio style cairn;
- The location in relation to the original Bible Christian Church in the community that once stood east of the present cemetery;
- The location, dimensions and orientation of the cemetery in relation to the encompassing community; and
- The park-like setting and natural features of the site.