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City Councillor

VILLAGE OF ROCKCLIFFE PARK

350 SPRINGFIELD ROAD
ROCKCLIFFE PARK, ONTARIO
K1M 0K7

Mayor
Patrick J. Murray

Councillors
Warren Langford
R. William Lawson, O.C.
Sheila Nelles
William Stewart

*Chief Administrative Officer/
Village Clerk*
Murray E. MacLean
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Linda C. MacDonald
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October 28, 1991

Ontario Heritage Foundation
7th Floor, 77 Bloor St. West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

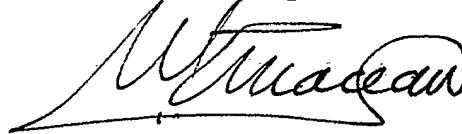
Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Heritage - 9 Crescent Road

Please find enclosed a copy of By-Law 91-24 designating 9 Crescent Road as a property of historic or architectural value or interest.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,



Murray E. MacLean,
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

MEM/mb
Encl.

VILLAGE OF ROCKCLIFFE PARK

BY-LAW NUMBER 91-24

A by-law of the Corporation of the Village of Rockcliffe Park to designate 9 Crescent Road to be of historic and architectural value or interest;

WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1980 c 337 authorizes the Council of the Municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historic and architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Rockcliffe Park has caused to be served upon the owners of the lands and premises known as 9 Crescent Road and more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in "The Citizen", a newspaper having general circulation in the Village of Rockcliffe Park once a week for three consecutive weeks, namely on May 24, May 31, and June 7, 1991;


AND WHEREAS the reasons for the designation are set out as Schedule "B" hereto;


AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served upon the Clerk of the Village of Rockcliffe Park;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Rockcliffe Park enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of historic and architectural value or interest the real property more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto known as 9 Crescent Road.
2. The Village Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper land registry office.
3. The Village Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owners of the property described in Schedule "A" and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Village of Rockcliffe Park.
4. The Schedules attached hereto and marked Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" form part of this by-law and all notations, references and other information contained therein shall be as much a part of this by-law as if all the matters and information set forth by the Schedules were all fully described herein.

GIVEN UNDER the Corporate Seal of the Corporation of the Village of Rockcliffe Park this 29th day of July, 1991.


.....
Clerk


.....
Mayor

SCHEDULE "A"

All and singular the lands and premises in the Village of Rockcliffe Park in the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton and being those parts of Blocks A-17 and A-26 as shown on Plan M-22 registered in the office of Land Titles at Ottawa and being designated as Part 1 on a Plan of Survey of Record as CAR-68.

SCHEDULE "B"

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

"Casa Loma", 9 Crescent Road, Rockcliffe Park, a stately country house in Rockcliffe Park, is recommended for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act for its historical importance, architectural merit and contribution to the environment of the Village.

"Casa Loma", the "house on the hill", was erected in 1911 for Harry Southam (1875-1954) and his wife Liliias Ahearn. Harry Southam and his older brother Wilson, who built the neighbouring house in the same year, opened up this part of Rockcliffe Park, including a private driveway which later became Crescent Road. As Secretary-Treasurer, Harry Southam participated in the management of the Ottawa Citizen, part of the growing chain of Southam Press newspapers. In keeping with their influential position in the city, the Southams became avid patrons of the arts. A collector of European and Canadian paintings, Harry Southam served as the Chairman of the National Gallery of Canada and supported Canadian painters at a critical phase in the artistic development of the country. Liliias Southam's strong musical interests sparked the transformation of the squash court at "Casa Loma" into a Music Room, from where early CBC concerts were broadcast. In the mid 1960s, the government of Austria purchased the property as the residence for the ambassador.

The two Southam houses are artistically set at an angle to each other, creating an ambience of randomly-sited country houses. "Casa Loma" was designed by Ottawa architect Allan Keefer, a descendent of the Mackay/Keefer family who built several large residences in the Village. "Casa Loma" is a dignified red brick mansion in the Queen Anne Revival style, with fine stone-mullioned windows, parapet gables and slate roof, formally arranged in a manner reminiscent of Edwardian houses for gentlemen of means. Though "Casa Loma" was damaged by fire in 1944, it was rebuilt, following the original design, under the direction of architect A.J. Hazelgrove.

The house is set within a pastoral landscape on a height of land overlooking the Ottawa River. At the bottom of the garden, beyond the Rockeries, ran the Ottawa Electric Railway line built by Thomas Ahearn, one of the owners of the company and father of Liliias Southam. The spacious grounds of the property continue to contribute significantly to the rural ambience of Rockcliffe Park.

By reason of its historical associations with the Southam family, its dignified architectural design and its park-like setting, "Casa Loma" merits designation as a heritage property.