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ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

MAY 07 2018

RECEIVED

**Re: Notice of Intent to Designate
Northern Dancer Cemetery
Part 3, Plan 40R-21755, City of Oshawa**

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 property as a property of cultural heritage value or interest:

Northern Dancer Cemetery
(described as Part 3, Plan 40R-21755, City of Oshawa, Regional Municipality of Durham)
South of Britannia Avenue West and west of Simcoe Street North
City of Oshawa

Reasons for the Proposed Designation

Location and Description of Property

The Northern Dancer Cemetery is an equine cemetery located south of Britannia Avenue West and west of Simcoe Street North and legally described as Part 3, Plan 40R-21755, City of Oshawa, Regional Municipality of Durham. The cemetery area is defined by a metal railing boundary fence and contains stone grave-markers, white gravel stones and grass and contains the remains, partial and full, of 11 thoroughbred horses including Northern Dancer, Archers Bay, Ascot Knight, Ballade, Canadiana, Cats at Home, New Providence, South Ocean, Vice Regent, Victoria Park and Windfields.

Legal Description

The Northern Dancer Cemetery is legally described as Part 3, Plan 40R-21755, City of Oshawa, Regional Municipality of Durham.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The cultural heritage value of the Northern Dancer Cemetery derives from the landscape's direct association with Northern Dancer, a famed Canadian stallion; being a rare example of equine burial practices; association with E. P. Taylor's horse breeding operation at Windfields Farm; as well as the burial site for 11 of Taylor's illustrious thoroughbreds.

Northern Dancer, born in 1961 at Windfields Farm, was a short, stocky horse that most thought was not made of the right stuff for winning big. In fact, in 1962 there were no interested purchasers for Northern Dancer's \$25,000 reserve purchase price. Northern Dancer thus remained in the Windfields Farm racing stable. Even following his 2 minute record-breaking win at the Kentucky Derby in 1964, a first for a Canadian-bred horse, racing fans paid little attention to Northern Dancer. Many in the racing world thought of Northern Dancer as just a lowly Canadian horse owned by Canadian business tycoon E.P. Taylor. It was after his win at the Preakness Stakes, and the excitement that comes before a possible Triple Crown, that Northern Dancer grabbed the attention of all, even those who didn't follow racing. A Triple Crown win was not to be when he came third in the Belmont. However, Northern Dancer went on to win the Queen's Plate, Canada's premier horse race. Winning the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness Stakes and the Queen's Plate, was a record never before achieved by a Canadian horse. Northern Dancer's career consisted of 18 races (14 wins, two seconds, two thirds) over 11 months from August 1963 to June 1964).

In the 1980s, Northern Dancer's stud fee of \$1 million was an amount that was four to five times that of his rivals and was not equaled until 2009. Northern Dancer would also go on to become the first non-human to be inducted into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame and the most influential thoroughbred stallion in the world, with his progeny continuing to have worldwide success. Northern Dancer almost single-handedly raised Canadian thoroughbred standards to the international level. On November 16, 1990, at the age of 29, Northern Dancer passed away.

Typical equine burial practice included burial of a horse's heart, hooves and sometimes head. Northern Dancer is buried in his entirety and accordingly this can be considered a rare type of equine burial.

The Northern Dancer Cemetery area was once at the core of the significant horse breeding operation, Windfields Farm, created by famed Canadian inventor and businessman, E. P. Taylor. Taylor is remembered for his modernization of the race track industry in addition to being one of Canada's most prominent businessmen of the 1950s.

Heritage Attributes

The key heritage attributes of the Northern Dancer Cemetery include:

- The boundary defined by fencing;
- The grave markers; and
- The remains, partial and full, of the following known thoroughbred horses:
 - Northern Dancer
 - Archers Bay
 - Ascot Knight
 - Ballade
 - Canadiana
 - Cats at Home
 - New Providence

- South Ocean
- Vice Regent
- Victoria Park
- Windfields

The full particulars of the Reasons for Designation for the Northern Dancer Cemetery 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 1st day of June 2018, 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 Margaret Kish at the address shown or by telephone at (905) 436-3311, extension 2945 or by email to mkish@oshawa.ca.



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

MK/c

- c. Ontario Heritage Trust
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