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February 5, 2016

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

Dear Sirs:

Re: Designation Notice of Cultural Heritage Value & Interest
325473 Durham Road B (Concession 1, NDR Pt Lot 21 RP17R3053
Parts 1 & 2 Artemesia)

At the meeting of February 1st, 2016 Council adopted the following resolution:

16-59

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That Council receive the Heritage Grey Highlands report recommending the designation of the Old Durham Road Cemetery under the Ontario Heritage Act; and That staff be directed to proceed with the necessary steps to implement the municipal heritage designation process of the Old Durham Road Cemetery property under the Ontario Heritage Act.

CARRIED.

Please find attached a copy of the Notice of Intention to Designate. The Municipality of Grey Highlands is the property owner however we will be providing Notice to the Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee who oversees the maintenance of the property.

The correspondence and report from the Grey Highlands Heritage Committee is attached. It should be noted that the Grey Highlands Heritage Committee did an exceptional job in the compilation of information and working through the elements required to ensure that criteria related to designation under the Ontario Heritage Act were met with respect to this property.

The current information on the property is:

Property Owner: Grey Highlands Municipality
Municipal Address: 325473 Durham Road B
Legal Description: Concession 1, NDR Pt Lot 21 RP17R3053 Parts 1 & 2
Artemesia

If you require any other information, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Debbie Robertson, AMCT
Director, Council and Legislative Services
Municipal Clerk
roberstond@greyhighlands.ca
519 986 1216 Ext. 233

The Municipality of Grey Highlands

206 Toronto Street South, Unit One P.O. Box 409 Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0
☎ 519-986-2811 Toll-Free ☎ 1-888-342-4059 Fax 519-986-3643
🌐 www.greyhighlands.ca ✉ info@greyhighlands.ca

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18 AS AMENDED, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES LOCATED AT **325473 Durham Rd B, near Priceville, Ontario (Concession 1, north of the Old Durham Road, Lot 21** IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GREY HIGHLANDS, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO. TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands intends to designate these lands and premises under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, as amended.

Description of Property

The Old Durham Road Cemetery is an inactive burial ground approximately ¼ acre in size. The site, which is identified by a large sign near the south-west corner, contains a granite memorial stone as well as four original 1850s tombstones housed in a concrete monument. The property is located on the north-east corner of the intersection of Durham Road B (AKA Old Durham Rd) and Grey Road 14, directly across the road from Old Durham Road School.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The **design and physical heritage value** of Old Durham Road Cemetery lies primarily in the preservation of four 1850's tombstones of inhabitants of the nearby Black pioneering settlement. As of 2015, the four historic grave stones (first recovered 1990) are safe-guarded from damage in a pavilion designed to evoke memories of cemetery dead houses, roadside chapels and rural structures such as log cabins and covered bridges. The monument symbolizes safe passage and is oriented due north, as a way to commemorate the many paths to freedom taken by refugees from slavery. Names of other Black pioneers presumed to have been buried on the site are also embedded in the monument. Of additional physical value is the engraved 1990 granite memorial to these early pioneers dedicated by (then) Lieutenant-Governor Lincoln Alexander, himself of African descent.

The **historical and associative value** of Old Durham Road Cemetery is related to being one of very few relicts of the vibrant Black settlement that existed from c.1848 in this locale. The 1851 census gives Artemesia a total population of 1,029 with 117 (roughly 11%) being the Black settlers on Old Durham Road. The Black adults are all listed as born in the USA, but children as old as 17 shown as born in Upper Canada. A few of these Black settlers had been loyalists, while most of the others (who moved here from near Guelph) originally were refugees from slavery. The land for both the cemetery (est. 1949) and the school (est. 1856) was donated by Gabriel Black, a pioneering settler, who signed the deed with X. Following the 1880s decline of the Black community, the cemetery was abandoned and by the 1930s no traces remained. The historical and associative value also relates to the 1989 foundation of The Old Durham Road Cemetery Committee which recovered four of the long missing stones 1990 and then restored and continues to maintain this highly valued remnant of the only Black pioneering community to have existed within what is now Grey Highlands.

The Old Durham Road Cemetery has **contextual value** because its location on the Old Durham Road is centered in the original Black pioneering settlement.

For more information or to receive a copy of the Designation Statement, please contact the Council and Legislative Services Department. **Notice of objection to the designation may be served on Debbie Robertson, Director of Council and Legislative Services and Municipal Clerk, no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 10th, 2016** at the following address: The Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands, 206 Toronto Street S., Unit 1, P.O. Box 409, Markdale, ON N0C 1H0, Attention: Debbie Robertson, Director of Council and Legislative Services and Municipal Clerk.

Dated: February 10th, 2016