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A Growing Tradition

February 7, 2022

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

Attention: Ontario Heritage Trust

RE: Notice of Passing of Designation By-law:

Earl Rowe Property

Part of Lot 1, Concession 10; West Gwillimbury, municipally known as

NO TRUE TRUE

4304-4306 Line 10

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

On February 1, 2022, the Council of Bradford West Gwillimbury executed by-law **2022-10** to designate **4304-4306 Line 10**, under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 c. O.18, as it is of cultural heritage value and interest.

Please see the attached 'Executed Designation By-law' which includes the required description of property, statement of cultural heritage value and description of heritage attributes.

We trust the above is satisfactory. Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours truly,

Brandon Slopack Senior Planner

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Attachment 1: Executed Designation By-law

VIA REGULAR MAIL

:

The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury By-law 2022-10

Heritage Designation By-law

Being a By-law to designate a property as being of Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest – 4304-4306 Line 10.

WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, the council of a municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all or some of the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historic and/or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

PT LOT 1 CONCESSION 10 4304-4306 Line 10 (Concession 10), Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the Earl Rowe Property at 4304-4306 Line 10, and has caused such notice of intention to be published once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule 'A' attached hereto and forming part of this by-law.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury hereby enacts as follows:

 That the following real property, more particularly described in Schedule 'A' attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest:

The Earl Rowe Property 4304-4306 Line 10, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, County of Simcoe

- 2. That the town solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule 'A' attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.
- 3. This By-law shall come into force and take effect on the date it is enacted.

Enacted this 1st day of February, 2022.

Rebecca Murphy, Clerk

Rob Keffer, M

SCHEDULE 'A'

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION - STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE

The Earl Rowe Property 4304-4306 Line 10 Circa 1870-1920

The Earl Rowe Property is recommended for designation under Part IV of the <u>Ontario Heritage Act</u> as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance.

Description of the Property

The property at 4304-4306 Line 10 is located in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, County of Simcoe, under the following property description:

Roll Number: 431202000206400

PT LOT 1 CONCESSION 10 4304-4306 LINE 10 (CONCESSION 10) TOWN OF BRADFORD WEST GWILLIMBURY COUNTY OF SIMCOE

Known locally as the Earl Rowe Property, the property is located a short distance northeast of the intersection of Highway 27 and Line 10, just outside the rural settlement of Newton Robinson, and set within an agricultural community.

The property is an agricultural landscape that contains a one-and-a-half storey farmhouse dated 1870-890 (with a mid-to-late 20th century rear addition), a detached garage, a U-shaped barn complex with two associated outbuildings dated c. 1920, a silo, two detached outbuildings (one of which is a pumphouse), and mature trees.

For reference only, for the sole purpose of this by-law, Plan 51R-43275 has been produced to illustrate the area of the property within which the heritage attributes described below are contained. Those heritage attributes are located within the area described as Part 1 in said plan.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

4304-4306 Line 10 has design, historical, and contextual significance. The property is a representative example of a late 19th century/early 20th century Ontario farmstead. The farm structures, fields, and circulation patterns form part of a landscape punctuated by trees, bushes, and footpaths that give the property a human scale characteristic of pre-industrial farmsteads. The farmhouse is representative of the Gothic Revival

architecture style that was popular among farms in the late 19th century. Typical of the style, it is one-and-a-half-storeys, built on a T-shaped plan, with a side gable roof and centrally placed gable featuring an arched window opening. The façade includes a central entryway with a rectangular transom and half side-lights. The U-shaped barn complex, composed of three Wisconsin-style barns, is representative of a plank framed truss roof system that advanced the structural abilities of barns and changed barn storage and usage in the 20th century.

The property holds historical value in its association with the Honorable William Earl Rowe who owned the property from 1917 until his death in 1984, and occupied the property as he became a prominent political figure. His provincial political career spanned four decades and included serving as the 20th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario from 1963–1968. Rowe was also a prominent member of the community in Newton Robinson and the Township of West Gwillimbury. He served as the youngest Reeve of the Township of West Gwillimbury in 1919. In addition to his political career, the property exhibits Rowe's strong associations with the organization/institution of Ontario harness racing. Rowe ran a successful horse breeding and harness racing business, utilizing the barn and grounds for breeding and training. He served as President of the Canadian Standardbred Horse Society twice and was the honourary Director of the Ontario Harness Horsemen's Association. Earl and his son Bill Rowe were founders of two harness racetracks: the Windsor Raceway and Barrie Raceway.

The Rowe Farm property demonstrates the work of local builders, the Merrick Brothers, who were significant to the Newton Robinson community as well as the Township of Bradford West Gwillimbury. The farmhouse was constructed by John and Isaac Merrick, well-known local builders who contributed to the design of residential and civic buildings and were integral to the development of Newton Robinson. The Merrick Brothers built churches, schools and many houses in the area including the Newton Robinson United Church where Earl Rowe is now buried, as well as the Rich Hill Church and St. John's Coulson's Hill Church.

The farm structures, circulation patterns, and mature vegetation framing the farm complex at 4304-4306 Line 10 maintain the agricultural character of historical farmsteads in the area surrounding Newton Robinson.

Heritage Attributes

Key elements that define the heritage character of the subject property include:

- Nineteenth-century Gothic Revival farmhouse:
 - Massing of the original T-shaped plan farmhouse, with paired chimneys (excluding the mid-to-late 20th century rear addition);
 - Side gable roof with centrally placed gable featuring an arched window opening:
 - Three-bay façade, two-bay side elevations;
 - o Centrally placed entryway with rectangular transom and half side-lights;

- West elevation gable with a wooden decorative finial and arched window opening;
- o Rectangular window openings with brick voussoirs and wooden sills; and,
- Brick construction.
- A water well, constructed of large colourful river stones;
- U-shaped barn (composed of three Wisconsin-style barns and two connected outbuildings):
 - o Plank framed barn with a truss roof construction;
 - o Gambrel roof:
 - o Roofline ventilators;
 - o Connected tower silo;
 - o Projection of the hay sling;
 - o Three-over-six windows; and,
 - o Siting in the topography to create multiple ground level access points.
- Two detached farmstead outbuildings (one of which is a pump house),—and a detached garage, contributing to the agricultural complex on site;
- Circulation patterns (footpaths and driveways) between the farmhouse and outbuildings;
- Siting and layout of the farmstead complex (farmhouse, outbuildings, footpaths
 and driveways) in relation to, and in close proximity with, the stream and wetland
 area that extends through the south east corner of the property (excluding the
 agricultural fields to the north);
- Mature trees and vegetation that frame the farmstead complex, along Line 10;
- Siting within a rural landscape and proximity to other farms as well as the adjacent community of Newton Robinson.

