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**Planning &
Development Services**

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ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

DEC 23 2011

RECEIVED

TOWN OF AJAX
65 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax ON L1S 2H9
www.townofajax.com

December 21, 2011

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO DESIGNATE
A PROPERTY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

Owner: Town of Ajax
Purpose: Under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, the Town of Ajax intends to designate the Memorial Park Gates and Cenotaph as a property of cultural heritage value or interest
Location: Church Street North on the east side of Memorial Park (located just south of the Pickering Village Library)

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ajax intends to designate the Memorial Park Gates and Cenotaph as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.18, as amended 2005.

ANY OBJECTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 3RD, 2012.

Objections can be filed in writing with the Town Clerk, Legislative and Information Services, Town Hall, 65 Harwood Avenue South, Ajax ON L1S 2H9.

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

Description of Property – Memorial Park Gates also known as Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 40R-27310

The iron entrance gates and nearby cenotaph at Memorial Park, located on Church Street North, were constructed in or around 1922 shortly after the park was purchased by the Pickering Village Chamber of Commerce. The gates are unique to Ajax and have a strong association with the adjoining neighbourhood park.

Statement of Cultural Value or Interest

The structures' cultural heritage value results from their historical significance and their importance as a cultural heritage landscape.

Historically, the entrance gates were an intrinsic part of the major focal point of the village. Memorial Park was the venue of the popular Dominion Day festivities from 1922 to at least the 1950s, and subsequently the Village Festival in the 1970s and 80s. The cenotaph was the site of Remembrance Day ceremonies until 1974.

Aesthetically, the gates represent a formal entrance to Memorial Park and give it a special character unlike that of any other park in Ajax. While the nearby cenotaph is no longer used for Remembrance Day ceremonies, it complements the gates and the adjacent library and provides a point of interest for families using the park.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The key attributes exhibited by this landscape feature include:

- 1) The gates' prominence on the Church Street North streetscape as a longstanding formal entrance to Memorial Park;
- 2) The uniqueness and high quality design of the wrought iron gates;
- 3) Its quality of construction, exemplified by the fact that it has stood for almost 90 years without requiring any major repairs; and
- 4) The longstanding association of both structures with special events that have taken place in the park, including Dominion Day festivities, the Pickering Village Festival and Remembrance Day ceremonies.

Further information with respect to the proposed designation of the Memorial Park Gates and Cenotaph can be obtained by contacting Christy Chrus, Senior Planner, Ph: 905-619-2529 Ext. 3200 or Email: christy.chrus@townofajax.com.

Sincerely



Christy Chrus, MCIP, RPP
Senior Planner

Cc: Ontario Heritage Trust
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