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March 22, 2024

SENT VIA MAIL

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

**Re: NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY OF CULTURAL
HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

**19801 Yonge Street
William James Sloane House
Part Lot 9 Plan 98, Town of East Gwillimbury, Regional Municipality of York**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of East Gwillimbury intends to designate the following property as a property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest pursuant to the provisions of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended. A brief statement of reasons is included below.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The property known municipally as 19081 Yonge Street contains a brick residential dwelling and accessory buildings/structures and is located on the east side of Yonge Street, west of Chapman Street in the community of Holland Landing.

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

William James Sloane was born in Scotland in 1799. By 1820, his name is recorded (in the History of Newmarket) as the manager for Peter Robinson's store/trading post in Newmarket. Robinson went on to build the locally significant Red Mill in Holland Landing in 1821.

In 1826, William Sloane purchased a parcel of land from Robinson. It was on the west side of Old Yonge St., and adjacent to the mill and the mill pond. Over the next few years, Sloane would continue to purchase small parcels of land, adding to his holdings. It is not clear when he moved to Holland Landing (presumably by 1826 at the latest), or what position he held during this time.

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MAR 27 2024

In 1834, William Sloane was appointed as Postmaster for Holland Landing, taking over from George Lount. He held this prestigious position until his death in 1867, when it seems one of his daughters took over the responsibilities. He was also appointed to a number of minor public positions, as well as being an investor in the steamship ventures on Lake Simcoe.

In 1836, he had the "William James Sloane House" constructed on Old Yonge St., near to the road. He lived here with his wife, mother-in-law and four children for the rest of his life. He is buried in the Holland Landing Christ Church cemetery, overlooking it. The house remained the property of the Sloane family until 1905. This choice of location was pivotal, as it needed to be located at the terminus of the stagecoach route, and in close proximity to the mill, stores, taverns, and inns of early Holland Landing.

DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

Important to the preservation of the property are the following exterior attributes:

- The William Sloane House is constructed in the Georgian style, with balanced facades and gable end parapet walls with brick corbels.
- It is constructed of full brick (four layers thick), laid in the Flemish bond pattern for the front, and common bond for the rest of the building.
- Each end wall has a large chimney, which is incorporated into the parapet.
- Most of the windows are original to 1836, and are configured in '12 over 12', '8 over 8' or '6 over 6' double hung sashes. Most of the original crown glass remains in the windows.
- Since the house is built into a slope, the south (front) appears as a single raised three-bay facade, while the north has two storeys, with three bays over four.
- It rests on a coursed rubble stone foundation composed mainly of granite and is mostly visible on the north side.
- The front still has the original wide front door, made of pine and with twelve raised panels. It is surrounded by sidelights and a transom, giving it a Regency appearance. There is a large 24-pane window on each side of the central door.
- The north side of the house has two large plank doors, each of which is flanked by an 8-pane window, all built into the stone foundation. Above them are three 24 pane windows in the brick portion. Centered between the doors in the stone wall is a date stone which reads 'W. J. S. 1836'. It is made of carved limestone.

The following interior attributes are also noted as being significant:

- The interior of the William Sloane House is based on a centre hall plan and retains many of its original 1836 features.
- There are two fireplaces on each level (6 in total), a central winding staircase, trim, mouldings and floors.

Main Level

- There is a principal room on each side of the hallway, with smaller rooms behind them. Presumably, these smaller rooms were once bedrooms. All the baseboards, paneled window trim, doors, and mantels are solid walnut.
- There is a built-in chimney cupboard beside each fireplace. Baseboards and trim work are different in each room of this level, as was the norm in the 1830s.
- Most of the walls have their original plaster, and the two main rooms and entry hall have plaster ceiling mouldings.
- The ceiling height is nearly eleven feet (3.3m).

Lower Level

- Consists of two principal rooms, each with its own exterior door and cooking fireplace. There are smaller storage rooms behind each one.
- Each room has exposed, heavy timbers in the ceilings. Any original woodwork on this level is made of pine. The original floors were pine planks, some of which have survived to the present day.
- The room closest to Yonge St. has plaster walls and carefully planed and beaded timbers above.
- Original trim work, such as a very wide and heavy chair rails, as well as the presence of a second cooking hearth and its proximity to Old Yonge St., might indicate that this room once served a more public function - perhaps as an adjunct to the Post Office function of the property.
- The other room has exposed stone and brick walls with early or original lime wash. The heavily smoke-stained beams suggest that this might have been a working kitchen.

Pursuant to Section 29(5) of the Ontario Heritage Act, any person may, before the 20th day of April, 2024 (within 30 days of the publication of this notice), send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of East Gwillimbury Notice of Objection to the proposed designation together with a statement of the reason for the objection and relevant facts. When a notice of objection has been received, the Council of East Gwillimbury will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board before a hearing and report.

Dated at the Town of East Gwillimbury this 20th day of March, 2024

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MAR 27 2024

Ontario Heritage Trust

Town of East Gwillimbury

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Yours truly,



Tara Lajevardi, Hon. B.A.
Municipal Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

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