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CULTURAL PROGRAMS  
HERITAGE UNIT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT  
R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18 AND  
267 INDIAN ROAD  
CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF PASSING OF BY-LAW

To:

██████████  
267 Indian Road  
Toronto, Ontario  
M6R 2X3

Ontario Heritage Foundation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
✓ M5C 1J3  
Attn: Richard Moorhouse

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Toronto has passed By-law No. 1995-0685 to designate 267 Indian Road (Eden Smith House) as being of architectural and historical value or interest.

Dated at Toronto this 15th day of January, 1996.

  
Barbara G. Caplan  
City Clerk

✓

No. 1995-0685. A BY-LAW

*To designate the property at 267 Indian Road to  
be of architectural and historical value or interest.*

(Passed November 27, 1995.)

WHEREAS by Clause 10 of Neighbourhoods Committee Report No. 14, adopted by Council at its meeting held on November 27, 1995, authority was granted to designate the property at 267 Indian Road (Eden Smith House) as being of architectural and historical value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act* authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historical or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the City of Toronto has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as No. 267 Indian Road and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation Notice of Intention to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B" to this by-law;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Toronto enacts as follows:

1. The property at 267 Indian Road, more particularly described and shown on Schedule "A" to this by-law, is being designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest.
2. The City Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedules "A" and "C" to this by-law in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the property at 267 Indian Road and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Toronto as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

BARBARA HALL,  
*Mayor.*

BARBARA G. CAPLAN  
*City Clerk.*

Council Chamber,  
Toronto, November 27, 1995.  
(L.S.)

## SCHEDULE "A"

In the City of Toronto, in the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and Province of Ontario, being composed of part of Lot 10 on the east side of Indian Road according to Plan 561 registered in the Land Registry Office for the Metropolitan Toronto Registry Division (No. 64), the boundaries of the land being described as follows:

COMMENCING at a point in the easterly limit of Indian Road, being the south-west angle of said Lot 10; being the north westerly angle of said Lot 6;

THENCE Northerly along the easterly limit of Indian Road 11.53 metres to a point;

THENCE Easterly and parallel with the northerly limit of said Lot 10, 27.20 metres more or less, to a point distant 10.67 metres from the easterly limit of said Lot 10;

THENCE Southerly and parallel with the said last mentioned limit 11.51 metres more or less to the southerly limit of said Lot 10;

THENCE Westerly along the said last mentioned limit 26.97 metres ore or less to Indian Road and the point of commencement;

THENCE Northerly along the last mentioned limit 24.67 feet more or less to the point of commencement;

TOGETHER WITH a right of way at all times in common with others entitled thereto, over a strip of land 0.30 metres in width immediately adjoining the northerly limit of the hereinbefore described and extending easterly from Indian Road to a depth of 9.45 metres.

SUBJECT TO a right of way at all times over and along the northerly 0.30 metres of the westerly 9.45 metres of the hereinbefore described land.

The hereinbefore described land being delineated by heavy outline on Plan SYE dated November 17, 1995, as set out in Schedule "C".

## SCHEDULE "B"

## Heritage Property Report

## Basic Building Data:

Address:	267 Indian Road (east side of Indian Road between Howard Park Avenue and Hewitt Avenue)
Ward:	2
Current Name:	Eden Smith House
Historical Name:	Eden Smith House
Construction Date:	1896
Architect:	Eden Smith
Contractor/Builder:	not found (possibly one of the following contractors that Eden Smith employed: Fussell and Thomas, S. T. Hughes, E. Wickham, Orr Brothers, or Charles Wood and Son)
Additions/Alterations:	verandah enclosed

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Original Owner:	Eden Smith, architect
Original Use:	Residential (house)
Current Use*:	Residential (house)
Heritage Category:	Landmark Heritage Property (Category 'A')
Recording Date:	July 1995
Recorder:	HPD:KA

\* this does not refer to permitted use(s) as defined in the Zoning By-law

Historical Background:

1. Eden Smith, Architect:

The important Toronto architect, Eden Smith, purportedly completed an average of 100 projects annually during a career spanning over three decades. Many of the buildings designed by Eden Smith and cited below are recognized on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties (see Attachment IV).

Information about the background and training of Eden Smith is incomplete. He was born near Birmingham, England in 1858 or 1859. His father was purported to be Benjamin Nind Smith, a "Builder Master" who acquired a building company. "Eden Smith" is a double surname, evidently incorporating the family name of his cousin, Sir William Eden. While his first name is not known, it may have been "Ralph" (Arthur, 258) or have begun with the initial "M" (Neal, TRAC, 20). Following training at an art college in Birmingham, Eden Smith apparently worked at the London architectural firm of Collcutt and Hamp in 1877 (Construction (June 1915), 227).

In 1885, Eden Smith immigrated to Canada with his wife, Annie Charlton, and his eldest son, Harry (born in 1882 and called "Baize"). The family homesteaded in Manitoba before relocating to Toronto in 1887. Eden Smith spent the next four years as an apprentice at the architectural firm of Strickland and Symons where his projects included St. Simon's Church at 525 Bloor Street East. In 1892, Eden Smith won commissions to design the Church of St. John the Evangelist on Portland Street (now demolished) and St. Thomas's Church at 383 Huron Street. These projects, incorporating features associated with Arts and Crafts styling, attracted favourable attention. After fulfilling the requirements set out by the Ontario Association of Architects (OAA) to become a registered architect in the province, Eden Smith opened his own architectural firm where he specialized in residential design.

In 1895, Eden Smith entered into a partnership with Eustace G. Bird, a Toronto architect who had also trained at the London firm of Collcutt and Hamp. After Bird joined the established New York City firm of Carriere and Hastings in 1899, Eden Smith shared the offices of another Toronto architect, J. P. Hynes (best known for his projects for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto). While the men did not practice together, they were founding members in 1899 of the Toronto Architectural Eighteen Club, a forum where rising architects expressed dissatisfaction with the standards and practices of the Ontario Association of Architects. At the turn of the century, Eden Smith's projects included St. Hilda's College (now known as Strachan House) for the University of Toronto at 790 Queen Street West on the former grounds of Trinity College, and the Peacock Building at 200 Lonsdale Road on the campus of Upper Canada College. In 1903, Eden Smith helped establish the Arts and Crafts Society of Canada.

The firm was renamed "Eden Smith and Son" in 1906 when Harry Eden Smith joined the practice after completing his training in Boston. In 1908, Eden Smith was a founding member of the Arts and Letters Club, a social club for artists and patrons of the arts. Through this organization, Eden Smith met and received commissions from many members of the city's business and cultural elite, including Sir Edmund Walker, for whom he designed a house at 5 Clarendon Crescent. During this period, Eden Smith was involved in the development of Wychwood Park, the residential enclave on the north side of Davenport Road, west of Bathurst Street. On a 20-acre site, landscape painter, Marmaduke Matthews and his neighbour, Alexander Jardine established a community inspired, in part, by an artists' colony in the Catskills near Onteora, New York. 8 of the 19 houses built in Wychwood Park

in the first phase of development from 1905 to 1917 are attributed to the firm of Eden Smith. Wychwood Park is recognized as a Heritage Conservation District under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The firm was known as "Eden Smith and Sons" from 1912, when Ralph Eden Smith (born 1890) joined the practice, until 1915, when Harry Eden Smith left for military service. Harry Eden Smith, who handled the business and engineering aspects of the office, did not return to the firm after World War I, which reverted to the earlier name of "Eden Smith and Son." During the World War I era, Eden Smith designed a house at 128 Clarendon Avenue and the Studio Building at 25 Severn Street for his friend and colleague, Lawren Harris, a founding member of the celebrated Canadian artists, the Group of 7. From 1913 to 1914, Eden Smith worked with the Toronto Housing Company to create the first government-funded housing projects in Canada which provided affordable accommodation for low-income families. The Spruce Court Apartments at 74-84 Spruce Street in Cabbagetown and the Riverdale Courts at 100 Bain Avenue in Riverdale featured low-scale "cottage flats" organized around communal courts. Eden Smith also designed the Wychwood Park, Beaches and High Park branches of the Toronto Public Library to coincide with the 300th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare in 1916.

In 1920, Eden Smith retired from architectural practice. Eden Smith and Son continued under the direction of Ralph Eden Smith until 1925, when the latter moved to New York City. Eden Smith divided his time between Evesham, England and Harry Eden Smith's farm near Guelph, Ontario where he died in 1949 in his 91st year.

## 2. Eden Smith House, 267 Indian Road

After Eden Smith arrived in Toronto in 1887, the family lived in a succession of rented accommodations on Gifford, Salisbury, Major and Harbord Streets. In 1896, following the establishment of his architectural firm, Eden Smith designed a residence for his family on the east side of Indian Road, between Howard Park Drive and Bloor Street West, in the neighbourhood east of High Park.

Indian Road was apparently laid out by architect John Howard to follow an aboriginal trail running east of the Humber River (Arthur, 283). John Howard acquired over 160 acres of land in the vicinity in 1836 where he built Colborne Lodge as the focus of his country estate, "High Park." By the late 19th century, his holdings were transferred to the City of Toronto as public parkland. During this period, rapid industrialization and a marked increase in population resulted in the westward expansion of the city and the annexation of previously independent communities. The City was particularly anxious to control the lands between the urban core and the municipally-owned High Park, including the Town of Brockton. Indian Road was the west boundary of Brockton when the City annexed that municipality in 1884. The area developed as a suburban neighbourhood after the City provided public works and the Toronto Street Railway extended its street car lines.

The house at 267 Indian Road was part of "an artistic colony in west Toronto that Eden Smith had designed in 1896" (Adams, 109). Eden Smith may have been inspired by Marmaduke Matthew's plans for Wychwood Park, but the architect did not control land development in the area. City records indicate that, while Indian Road south of Bloor Street had been divided into building lots, little construction activity had occurred by the mid-1890s. In 1896, Eden Smith designed a house at 401 Indian Road (now identified as #261) for lawyer E. A. DuVernet near his own property at #405 (now #267). Eden Smith also prepared plans for the Indian Road residences of Edward G. Ffolkes at #420 (now #208) and Paul Von Szelsiki at #445 (now #305) in 1901. Two years later, he designed a house for the important Toronto sculptor, Gustav Hahn, at 96 Boustead Avenue, directly east of Indian Road. In 1904, muralist George A. Reid, principal of the Ontario College of Art and a director of the Toronto Museum of Art (forerunner of the Art Gallery of Ontario), commissioned Eden Smith to plan his residence at 435 Indian Road.

Eden Smith retained the property at 267 Indian Road until 1908, when it was acquired by George E. Holt of John Wanless and Company, the Yonge Street jewellers and diamond merchants. Eden Smith and his family moved to #5 Wychwood Park, which was completed according to his own plans in 1906. Their former neighbours along Indian Road -- DuVernet, Reid and Hahn -- relocated to Wychwood Park where, with the exception of Reid, Eden Smith designed their new residences.

#### Architectural Description:

The Eden Smith House at 267 Indian Road is the prototype of the architect's interpretation of the English Cottage style, influenced by the Arts and Crafts Movement. The movement was inspired by the English designer William Morris and his followers as a reaction against industrialization and a return to craftsmanship based on natural materials and traditional methods. During his formative years in England, Eden Smith was exposed to the work of Morris and his circle. He also drew inspiration from English domestic architecture of the 15th and 16th centuries and from the work of other English architects, ranging from (the early career of) Sir Edwin Lutyens to Richard Norman Shaw, D. F. A. Voysey, M. H. Baillie Scott and, in particular, William R. Lethaby.

In his interpretation of the English Cottage style, the designs of Eden Smith are not identical, but generally share common elements: varied silhouettes, steep, sweeping roofs with extended eaves, off-centre gables and tall chimneys, the innovative use of materials, casement windows, and lack of applied decoration. Many of his plans, including those for the dwelling at 267 Indian Road, feature the placement of the main entrance on a side wall, rather than on the facade facing the street. In this arrangement, the living space is reoriented to the side or rear of the house, taking advantage of southern exposures and garden views. The Eden Smith House, and his other similarly-planned residences with a side entrance, were popularly dubbed "turned around" houses (Mathers, 112). The designs were innovative, given that "this turning away from the street is something usually associated with the architecture of new towns like Radburn (New Jersey) in the 1920s, and American ranch-houses of the 1950s...." (Adams, 106).

The Eden Smith House at 267 Indian Road is constructed of brick with stone and wood trim. The two-storey house features an irregular plan covered by a steeply-pitched and extended gable roof with broad eaves and, on the south face, a cross-gable. The principal entry is placed on a side (south) wall where it is offset beneath the half-timbered and bracketed cross-gable. Double wood panelled doors have multi-paned sidelights and transom. The west wall facing Indian Road has a projecting bay with a pyramidal roof, shingled cladding in the upper floor, and a tall chimney. The walls display multi-paned casement windows, with bay windows on the south and north facades. A single-storey verandah (now enclosed) with a bracketed hip roof wraps around the southwest corner of the building.

The Eden Smith House at 267 Indian Road was among the first of an estimated 2500 residences designed by the architect. Built at the outset of his career in Toronto, its appearance set a standard for his subsequent residential designs.

#### Context:

The Eden Smith House is located on the east side of Indian Road between Howard Park Avenue and Hewitt Avenue in the High Park neighbourhood south of Bloor Street West and east of Parkside Drive. This section of Indian Road contains a mixture of late 19th and early 20th century brick residential buildings which, on the east side of the street, share a common setback. The adjoining property to the north contains a house which faces north onto Hewitt Avenue (#75). On the south, a pair of houses at 263 and 265 Indian Road separate the Eden Smith House from a similar dwelling, designed by the same architect, at 261 Indian Road.

#### Summary:

The Eden Smith House at 267 Indian Road is historically significant as the first house in Toronto designed and occupied by the architect and his family. He resided on the property for over a decade, a formative period that witnessed the establishment of his own practice, his brief partnership with Eustace G. Bird, the addition to the firm of his eldest son, Harry Eden Smith, and the completion of some of his most important commissions, ranging from educational buildings to domestic designs. The house is an integral part of the neighbourhood where Eden Smith designed residences for several like-minded artists and supporters of the arts.

The property is architecturally important as a prototype of the English Cottage style as interpreted by Eden Smith. The success of the design, introduced in the late 19th century, led to the appearance of houses with similar features in the neighbourhoods of the Annex, Deer Park, Forest Hill Village, High Park and Rosedale, and in the select enclave of Wychwood Park, during the first two decades of the 20th century. Many of the latter properties are recognized on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

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In assessing Eden Smith's career, architect A. S. Mathers noted that "his work influenced domestic architecture more profoundly than of any other Canadian architect" (Mathers, 112). The Eden Smith House is significant as a prototype for other residences designed by Eden Smith in the English Cottage style and as an example of the architect's contribution to Canadian domestic architecture.

Sources Consulted:

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#### Short Statement of Reasons for Designation

##### Eden Smith House - 267 Indian Road

The property at 267 Indian Road is recommended for designation for historical and architectural reasons. The house was completed in 1896 according to the designs of Toronto architect, Eden Smith, as his residence. Eden Smith occupied the dwelling with his family until they relocated to #5 Wychwood Park in 1908.

The Eden Smith House is designed in the English Cottage style as influenced by the Arts and Crafts Movement and interpreted by Eden Smith. Constructed of brick with stone and wood trim, the two-storey house features an irregular plan covered by a steeply-pitched and extended gable roof with broad eaves and, on the south face, a cross-gable. The principal entrance is placed on a side (south) wall beneath the half-timbered and bracketed cross-gable. Double wood panelled doors have multi-paned sidelights and transom. The west wall facing Indian Road has a projecting bay with a pyramidal roof, shingled cladding in the upper floor, and an extended chimney. The walls display multi-paned casement windows, with bay windows on the south and north facades. A single-storey verandah (now enclosed) with a bracketed hip roof wraps around the southwest corner of the building.

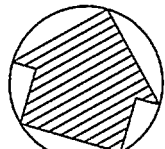
The Eden Smith House is located on the east side of Indian Road between Howard Park Avenue and Hewitt Avenue in the High Park neighbourhood south of Bloor Street West. It is historically important as the first house Eden Smith designed and occupied as his family residence in Toronto. It is an integral part of the area where Eden Smith designed residences for several like-minded artists and patrons of the arts. The house is architecturally significant as a prototype for other residences designed by Eden Smith in the English Cottage style and as an example of the architect's contribution to Canadian domestic architecture.

## SCHEDULE " C "


MAP AREA 48H-21

HEWITT AVENUE	
No. 75  Lot 9	No. 73
No. 267  Lot 10  Registered Plan 561 - York  Lot 11	Lot 12

INDIAN ROAD



27.20  
 11.53  
 11.51  
 26.97

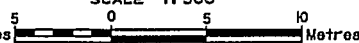

 No. 267 INDIAN ROAD

**NOTE:**  
 THIS SKETCH IS NOT A PLAN OF SURVEY  
 AND HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM SURVEY  
 NOTES AND OFFICE RECORDS, IT SHALL  
 NOT BE USED EXCEPT FOR THE PURPOSE  
 INDICATED IN THE TITLE BLOCK.

**PUBLIC WORKS AND THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**CITY OF TORONTO**

SKETCH TO ILLUSTRATE  
**LAND DESIGNATED AS  
 BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND  
 HISTORICAL VALUE OR INTEREST**

SCALE 1:300

Metres  Metres

Date: NOV. 21, 1995	W. Kowalczyk O.L.S. Acting City Surveyor
Drawn by: G.B.	File: 13 - H2
Checked by: WJM	<b>SYE2805</b>

SYE2805