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Township of Muskoka Lakes Heritage Committee

PO Box 129, Port Carling, Ontario, P0B 1J0
Phone: 705 765-3156 Fax: 705 765-6755

RECEIVED
MAY 9 - 2003
CONSERVATION REVIEW
BOARD

May 7th, 2003

Ministry of Culture
Heritage and Libraries Branch
400 University Avenue, 4th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

Attention: Rita Calderone

Reference: The Lake Joseph Community Church

Dear Ms. Calderone,

Please find enclosed the Notice of Intention to Designate for the property known The Lake Joseph Community Church in Minett, Township of Muskoka Lakes.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call Wendy Oliver at the above number.

Yours truly,



J. W. McDivitt, A.M.C.T.
Clerk Administrator

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Muskoka Lakes – Land of Blue Skies and Clear Waters

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES AT THE
FOLLOWING MUNICIPAL ADDRESS IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Ministry of Culture
Heritage and Libraries Branch
Attention Rita Calderone
400 University Avenue, 4th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Muskoka Lakes intends to designate the property, including lands and buildings, at the following municipal address as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990.

The Lake Joseph Community Church, 1769 Peninsula Road in the Township of Muskoka Lakes.

In September of 1902, permanent and summer residents purchased property for a church on Lake Joseph. The waterfront site, part of lot 17, Concession 8 in Medora Township, is at the mouth of Cumberland Bay. The Mackenzie brothers of Staney Brae designed and built the church in time for the gala opening on August 9th, 1903. Members of the congregation were both permanent residents and cottagers, from Pittsburgh, Poughkeepsie, New York, Hamilton, Toronto, and Montreal. It has been used every summer for services with the exception of 1933 and 1934.

The overall style of the church is straightforward and unornamented Ontario vernacular. The steeply pitched roof is complemented by a simple bell tower clad in scalloped cedar shakes. The original, leaded, pointed arch windows line each side of the double aisle church. The original shape and white colour of the building have been retained. One of the most notable architectural features of the building is the interior with its original high ceiling and basswood paneling in a simple medallion pattern.

The Lake Joseph Community Church continues to enhance a strong sense of the multi-generational lakeside community by providing interdenominational Sunday services each summer. The church continues to be a landmark on Lake Joseph.

The specific parts of the property we believe should be protected are:

- white clad exterior facing Lake Joseph including the triple pointed leaded glass window and shake cladding on upper portions
- bell tower with door and overhead pointed, leaded glass windows and shake cladding
- multi-paned pointed windows on either side of the church
- basswood interior panelling on walls and ceiling

Any person may, within thirty days of the first publication of this notice, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Township of Muskoka Lakes notice of his or her objection to the proposed designation together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If such a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Muskoka Lakes shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

Dated at The Township of Muskoka Lakes, Port Carling

this 7th day of May, 2003

Clerk 