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OAKVILLE

RECEIVED

NOV 18 2009

November 17, 2009

VIA COURIER

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



Dear Sirs and/or Madames:

**Subject: Notice of Intention to Designate**  
**10 Park Avenue, Oakville, Ontario**

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Attached please find the Notice of Intention to designate the above-mentioned property which is served upon you in accordance with section 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.18, (the "*Act*").

Pursuant to section 29(4.1) of the *Act* any person who objects to the proposed designation must file a notice of objection to the designation with the Town Clerk at 1225 Trafalgar Road, P.O. Box 310, Oakville, Ontario L6J 5A6, no later than December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Sincerely,

Kelly-Anne Lanaus  
Legislative Coordinator

Encls.

- c.c. C. Best, Town Clerk  
D. Anderson, Director of Planning Services  
D. Baker, Assistant Town Solicitor  
M. Seaman, Manager of Heritage Planning  
S. Schappert, Heritage Planner



OAKVILLE

## **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

**10 Park Avenue, Oakville, Ontario**

**TAKE NOTICE** that Oakville Town Council, on Monday, November 9, 2009 resolved to pass a Notice of Intention to Designate PLAN 110 PT LOTS 24,25 municipally known as 10 Park Avenue under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. 18, as a property of cultural heritage value and interest.

### **1. Description of Property**

The subject property is located at the corner of Park Avenue and The Esplanade, immediately adjacent to Lake Ontario. The property includes one brick residence.

### **2. Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

#### **Design Value or Physical Value**

Originally built as a simple Regency cottage, 'The Manse' at 10 Park Avenue has physical value despite modifications to the house, including several later eclectic additions. The cottage retains much of the original brick work and stone foundation that was laid by the Reverend James Nisbet and his father, Thomas Nisbet, in 1852. Also of note is the hipped form of the roof which recalls the Regency style, and the east and north walls of the cottage which have retained the scale, as well as door and window openings of Reverend Nisbet's cottage.

#### **Historical Value or Associative Value**

This property has strong historical value through its association with the Reverend James Nisbet, an important figure in local history as the first Presbyterian minister in Oakville, and a significant national figure as the founder of the community of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

James arrived in Canada in 1844 with his widower father (who was a master shipbuilder in Scotland) and two sisters. Educated at Knox College, James was inducted into the Presbyterian Church in Oakville in 1850 and served as the first Presbyterian minister to both the Oakville and Knox Sixteen (where the Sixteen Mile Creek and Dundas Street crossed) congregations.

In 1852, James, who was now Reverend Nisbet, along with his father, built this small brick cottage with a basement kitchen and 1 storey of living space, as the Presbyterian manse. Reverend Nisbet continued to serve the Presbyterian community in Oakville for over 10 years until 1862, when he accepted a missionary appointment in Kildonan, a small settlement on the Red River in Manitoba. Reverend Nisbet and his Kildonan parishioners erected a small church and then a school, which was the first school building used by Manitoba College (now the University of Manitoba) in 1871. The Kildonan School, also known as Nisbet Hall, is designated as Manitoba Provincial Heritage Site No. 50.

Reverend Nisbet went on to serve among the Cree Indians on the North Saskatchewan River, becoming the first Canadian Presbyterian missionary to work with the First Nations of the northwest. In 1866, he led a group of pioneers that included his wife, Mary Macbeth, to the area now known as Prince Albert. Nisbet named the mission as a memorial to Queen Victoria's deceased husband.

Reverend Nisbet and his wife both died in 1874. Their 4 children (Mary Jane, Isabella Catherine, Thomas and Robert) returned to Oakville and were raised in the brick cottage by their two aunts. Thomas was the first optician in Oakville, as well as the owner of a local music store and the local Singer Sewing Machine representative. He continued to live at the Park Avenue home with his sister, Mary Jane (who became Mrs. Samuel Bacon), and her family for many years.

The property at 10 Park Avenue was used by the next occupants, the Cuthbertsons, as a summer home, due to its ideal location next to the Esplanade beach. A pier was built into the lake, and a bathhouse was constructed on the shoreline. The north lawn of the property was used as a tennis court.

### **Contextual Value**

'The Manse' at 10 Park Avenue is located immediately adjacent to Lake Ontario, at the corner of the Esplanade and Park Avenue. This small cottage on lakefront property is surrounded by mature trees and gardens. Its orientation towards the lake and remaining side lawn are important reminders of its historical use as a summer cottage.

The streetscape is a mix of historic and modern residences, and is dominated by the shoreline of Lake Ontario that runs along the south end of the property and the Esplanade.

### **3. Description of Heritage Attributes**

The Reasons for Designation include the following heritage attributes and apply to all elevations and the roof including all facades, entrances, windows and trim, together with construction materials of wood, stone, brick and their related building techniques.

#### **Exterior Elements:**

- All remaining original brick work
- East and North elevations exterior walls
- Original stone foundation
- Hipped form of roof

**OBJECTIONS:** Any objection to this designation must be filed no later than **December 18, 2009**. Objections should be directed to Cathie Best, Town Clerk, 1225 Trafalgar Road, P.O. Box 310, Oakville, Ontario L6J 5A6.

**MORE INFORMATION:** Any inquiries may be directed to Michael Seaman, Manager of Heritage Planning at 905-845-6601, extension 3873 or by email at [mseaman@oakville.ca](mailto:mseaman@oakville.ca)

**Last Date to file Notice of Objection: December 18, 2009**

**Cathie Best, Town Clerk**