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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE

1225 TRAFALGAR ROAD
P.O. BOX 310
OAKVILLE, ONTARIO
CANADA L6J 5A6
TELEPHONE: (905) 845-6601

April 8, 1997

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CULTURAL PROGRAMS
HERITAGE UNIT

ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION

77 Bloor Street West
2nd Floor
Toronto, ON M7Q 2R9

Dear Sir/Madam:

Subject: Proposed Designation of 1198 and 1208 Lakeshore Road East, Ballymena Estate

Pursuant to Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, we are forwarding herewith the attached notice setting out Council's intention to designate the above-noted property as a property of historic and architectural value and interest.

Also attached for your information is a copy of the staff report that was approved by the Oakville Council.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours very truly,

Pat McPherson
Committee Assistant
TOWN OF OAKVILLE

cc: Ramona Boddington, Heritage Planner, Planning Services Department.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of Oakville intends to designate the property known as 1198/1208 Lakeshore Road East (Ballymena Estate) in the Town of Oakville pursuant to Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. A statement of the reason for the proposed designation is set out in Schedule "A" to this notice. The full particulars of the reason for designation are available at the Clerk's Department, Oakville Municipal Building, 1225 Trafalgar Road, during regular business hours.

Notices of objection to the proposed designation, setting out the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, may be served on Judith Muncaster, Town Clerk, The Corporation of the Town of Oakville, 1225 Trafalgar Rd., Oakville, ON L6J 5A6, within 30 days from the ninth day of April, 1997, being the date upon which this notice was published in the Oakville Beaver newspaper.

SCHEDULE "A"

1198 and 1208 Lakeshore Road East are one continuous property known as the Ballymena Estate. The property at 1198 Lakeshore Road East comprises the grounds and main house of the Ballymena Estate. The remaining portion of Ballymena has the municipal address 1208 Lakeshore Road East, and is the gatehouse of the estate.

Ballymena was purchased in 1916 as the lakefront estate of Lieutenant Colonel William Fletcher Eaton, the eldest surviving son of Timothy Eaton, founder of the Eaton retail, manufacturing and real estate empire. During the Eaton years, Ballymena was a lavish social centre for the area, with many notable guests. In 1946, Ballymena was purchased by Hon. Ray Lawson, then Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. From 1947 to 1980, Ballymena served as his personal residence as well as a venue for official functions during his term as Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. Since Mr. Lawson's death in 1980, Ballymena has been home to his daughter, Mrs. Helen Ruth Kindersley.

Ballymena is one of the best, last and most completely intact examples of a British-style "country house estate". The extensive grounds for the estate were laid out and the buildings constructed between 1917 and 1921. The buildings on Ballymena Estate were designed and constructed in the Arts & Crafts tradition by Munro & Mead Architects. 1208 Lakeshore Road East, the first building built on the estate, is a fine stone and timber building built as the gatehouse, stable, garage and chauffeur's residence. The apartment and garage are still in existence but the stable has been converted into residential space. The main house at 1198 Lakeshore Road East remains in near original condition. To the west of the main house is the swimming pool (believed to be one of the first in Oakville) and a two storey pavilion, known as "The Pagoda", constructed c. 1930 as a set of change rooms and gazebo for the estate, also in the Arts & Crafts tradition. The Ballymena Estate is the only estate in the vicinity in which all of the classic components of this architectural type are still extant.

Ballymena is one of the most outstanding and complete examples of the grand estates which once ran the length of Lakeshore Road in Oakville. None of the other estates in the vicinity is nearly as close to its original form as Ballymena. There are no other examples in Oakville of such a completely intact estate that so thoroughly lives up to the spirit of its place, time, and cultural lineage.