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## NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O. 18, AND THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES KNOWN AS THE MCVEAN FARM SITE, LOCATED AT MCVEAN DRIVE, CLAIREVILLE CONSERVATION AREA (PT LOT 7, CON 8, ND TORONTO GORE) IN THE CITY OF BRAMPTON, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO:

## NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the City of Brampton intends to designate property, being the McVean Farm site and lands upon which the building is situated, at McVean Drive in the City of Brampton, in the Province of Ontario, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. c. O. 18.

## SHORT STATEMENT OF THE REASON FOR THE DESIGNATION

Heritage designation of the McVean farm site, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, is recommended for architectural, historical and contextual reasons.

The McVean farm site is an exceptionally significant property, associated with a very prominent early settler, Alexander McVean and his family.

Significant features include a very rare double English Wheat Barn built by the McVean family in the 1840s. The barn possesses a high degree of architectural integrity. The McVean Barn was built specifically for the processing of wheat using an ancient method of using the wind to separate the wheat kernel from the chaff. It provides evidence of one of the first European architectural techniques adapted to Upper Canada's farming operations. In addition, the barn is what is known as a Double English Wheat Barn and is quite unique since very few were built and fewer still exist in their original form today.

The surrounding lands hold archaeological potential with evidence of Paleo Indian artifacts, suggesting human occupation of these lands back some 12,000 to 15,000 years. There is potential for settlement-era remains in former wells and privy pits or around house foundations. The nearby ravine and other watercourses hold potential for pre-settlement archaeological materials.

The laneway leading into the property from McVean Drive, ravine, hedgerow flanking the lane, barn located on a rise at the end of the lane, along with other features form a rich and unique cultural landscape worthy of recognition and on-going conservation.

The site of the later McVean farmhouse (demolished), just to the east of the barn, is readily identifiable and several early plantings, hedgerows, flower beds and mature conifers, several century-old apple trees and deciduous trees are intact.

Archival records suggest that a burial site is located on the property, dating to 1822. The mortality rate was high and it was not uncommon for settlers to bury their dead on the farm property close to the homestead. It is believed that the unmarked grave site of Alexander McVean Jr., has been located. If confirmed through archaeological assessment, this grave would be the earliest known Euro-Canadian grave site in Brampton. The site is located close to the McVean's original homestead and serves as a testament to the rigors of early settlement life.

The property is linked geographically, historical and contextually to the nearby site of the McVean saw and grist mills (located on Lot 5). One of the first grist and saw mills in this area was built by Alex McVean on a branch of the Humber which ran through his property. While the actual mill site is now thought to be beneath what is now Queen Street, parts the head race to the mill has been located and is still clearly visible on the property.

The McVean barn, the surrounding vegetation, archaeological potential, cultural landscapes and remains of buildings that once stood on the site, in addition to the historical associations with the McVean family, lends this parcel of land considerable cultural heritage value. Heritage designation is warranted.

## DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

To ensure that the cultural heritage significance of this property remains intact, certain heritage attributes are to be conserved, and they include:

## Exterior Architectural Heritage Attributes:

Rare double English Wheat Barn built by the McVean family in the 1840s.

## Contextual Heritage Attributes:

Laneway leading into the property from McVean Drive, ravine, hedgerow flanking the lane, barn located on a rise at the end of the lane, along with other features; ruins and site of the later McVean farmhouse (demolished), several early plantings, hedgerows, flower beds and mature conifers, several century-old apple trees and deciduous trees, possible burial site of Alexander McVean

## Historical /Cultural Heritage Attributes:

Geographical, historical and contextual linkages to the nearby site of the McVean saw and grist mills (located on Lot 5); historical associations with the McVean family

The short statement of reason for the designation, including a description of the heritage attributes along with all other components of the detailed Heritage Report: Statement of Reason for Heritage Designation, constitute the "reason for heritage designation" required under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Please contact Jim Leonard, Heritage Coordinator in Urban Design Section, Planning, Design and Development Department at (905) 874-3825 to view this document, and for further information.

Notice of objections to the proposed designation may be served on the Clerk no later than 4:30 p.m. on December 11, 2006 (within 30 days of the publication of this notice).

Dated at the City of Brampton on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 2006.

Kathryn Zammit, City Clerk, City of Brampton