

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 ST. JOHN'S EDMONTON/SNELGROVE CEMETERY, LOCATED AT HURONTARIO STREET AND MAYFIELD ROAD 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 situated at Hurontario Street and Mayfield Road (St. John's Edmonton/Snelgrove Cemetery) 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

The subject property is the site of a historic Euro-Canadian Christian Cemetery. This Anglican cemetery was established in the early 19th century in the former hamlet of Snelgrove, also known as Edmonton. Snelgrove was known as Edmonton in the 1830s and 1840s. William Vernon Buffy had a tavern there for a number of years. After the post office was established in 1851 there was confusion over mail being sent to Edmonton, Alberta and it was decided to rename the hamlet after the Snell family who had settled in the area in the 1830s.

Many early pioneer settlers are buried in this cemetery. The cemetery holds several early, hand-carved tombstones containing well-executed and beautiful motifs and symbols. The markers are of the slab styles primarily, and are made of marble. All grave markers are imbedded in the soil. One of the visible stones is the grave of Sarah Crawford who died on May 27, 1872, and her husband who died in 1873.

The many attributes in the cemetery are a symbol of the people who helped shape the character and development of Brampton. The setting and landscaping elements form an interesting green space with several early plantings. This well-preserved cemetery also represents one remaining vestige of the nearby former hamlet of Alloa.

The intersection of Highway 10 and Mayfield marks the location of the historic Village of Snelgrove. Although the cemetery is one of the few things that remain of the historic village, this area was once a hub for commercial activity and an important part of Brampton's past.

The history of the area dates back to 1826 when Andrew Renzire came to live there following the completion of the survey for the north half of Toronto Township and all of Chinguacousy Township. As a result, Hurontario Street, which bisected the new survey was soon lined with planks and provided easy access for settlers to the port at the mouth of the Credit River. Snelgrove, which was then named Edmonton, after the English hometown of an early settler, became a small commercial centre in the 1820s and 1830s. By 1877, Edmonton was a growing village with many local amenities serving the population of approximately 200. These amenities included five large churches, a school, houses, liquor store, boot and shoe store, a hotel, factories manufacturing cheese, carriages and gloves as well as the Chinguacousy Township Hall. Tremaine's Map of Peel County (1856) indicates that the frontage along Hurontario Street was densely developed by that date. The Illustrated Historical Atlas of Peel County (1875) indicates that the subject property was situated within the urban density development area known as Edmonton.

Seeing that Edmonton (Snelgrove) was establishing itself as a thriving community, this in turn attracted the Canadian Pacific Railway, which was then referred to as the Credit Valley Railroad, to run its rail line through the village and establish a station. This meant that Snelgrove was amongst the few communities in the present day Brampton to have a permanent major railway station.

The establishment of the railway station in the Village of Snelgrove brought about a change in the community. The CPR proposed to change the name of its station in Edmonton, Ontario as there seemed to be confusion with the City of Edmonton, Alberta which by this time was of significant size.

The proposed name change brought about opposition from local residents. In particular, the Snell Family, which had been the largest family and landowner in the area, opposed the ideas since their large breeding operation named Ayrshire Cattle was broadly advertised as being in "Edmonton, Ontario". The Snell Family declared that if the name of the station were to be changed it should be called Snelgrove. The CPR agreed to the name change and soon after the Post Office followed suit.

DESCRIPTION OF THE HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES OF THE PROPERTY:

Unless otherwise indicated, the reason for designation applies generally to all gravestones, monuments, fencing, trees, shrubs, hedgerows, other vegetation and the grounds and vistas generally.

To ensure that the cultural heritage value of this property is conserved, certain heritage attributes that contribute to its value have been identified specifically and they include:

- Representative example of a historic Euro-Canadian Cemetery;
- All tombstones and grave markers
- Spiritual value as the burial site of an indeterminate number of 19th century Euro-Canadians and other persons;
- Associative value reflecting the history of the former community of Snelgrove;
- Associations with Brampton's Anglican Community
- All landscaping elements including trees and shrubs;
- Dense wood lot which is a juxtaposition to its immediate surroundings;
- Archaeological potential including all burials and the site of St. John's Anglican Church

The property consists of approximately 0.602 hectares and is square in shape. Existing residential lands lie to the east and to the south. A single residential lot is situated at the northwest corner and a woodlot at the northeast corner. The nearest waterway is a tributary of the Etobicoke Creek, which flows in a southerly direction to the west of the subject property.

The landscape elements of the cemetery are significant with several mature shade trees. However, the property is heavily overgrown at this time. There is significant ground cover and vegetation that is worthy of retention and care.

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 Antonietta Minichillo, Heritage Coordinator in Urban Design Section, Planning, Design and Development Department at (905) 874-3744 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 Monday, December 21, 2009 (within 30 days of the publication of this notice).

Dated at the City of Brampton on this 19 day of November 2009.

Peter Fay, City Clerk, City of Brampton