

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18, AS AMENDED, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES AT THE FOLLOWING MUNICIPAL ADDRESS IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays intends to designate the following municipal address as being of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18, as amended.

1211 MANSELL ROAD 2

Description of Property

This Mansell property is part of an early 20th century family development located on the pristine shores of Rebecca Lake that is representative of the rustic Muskoka heritage and of a valued family legacy. The 1.96 acre property comprises of the following hand-crafted log cabins:

- "Sunset Cabin" a traditional one and one half storey log cabin,
- "Kid Brother" a basic one-storey utilitarian log cabin,
- "Twin Brother" a basic one storey wood structure,
- "Two-seater log privy"

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property purchased in 1912 was used as a fishing and hunt camp with lodging provided by a three-room canvas tent which was typical of that era and representative of the historic development of Muskoka and Lake of Bays in particular as a tourist resource and retreat.

The existing, almost century old hand-crafted log cabins were built by materials harvested and sourced from the property in 1915 by local craftsmen exhibiting the vernacular architecture that was indigenous to this specific area and time period.

The Mansell family property is characteristic of the development in the Muskoka area and represents the foundation of the economy, culture and land use patterns which exist today.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key attributes that express the value of the Mansell property dwellings as an example of the early 20th century vernacular style that reflects alterations and adaptive reuse include:

- Hand-crafted log cabins were constructed in a interlocking saddle notch method of hand-hewn spruce trees harvested from the property and weather sealed with mortar chinking in the form of tuck-pointing between the logs;
- Original icehouse structure that was transported by skidding it across the frozen lake by a team of horses;
- Associative cultural heritage value is exhibited as the tuck pointing was done by Richard Mansell who is also attributed with doing the tuck pointing on Toronto's famed Casa Loma.
- Contextual value is demonstrated with the orientation and design of the "Sunset Cabin" such that during the summer solstice, the sunset is perfectly aligned between the front entrance and the rear entrance of the cabin, hence the name.
- Considered a landmark as the Mansell family complex was one of the first permanent cottages on Rebecca Lake.

- Interior Features:
 - ✓ Hand-made fieldstone fireplace and chimney stack featuring tuck-pointed mortar chinking and hand-crafted wood mantle which has hand carved into it, "Chop your own wood, it will warm you twice;"
 - ✓ Original windows, window sills, doors, trim of windows and doors;
 - ✓ Original Aladdin and Angle fuel lamps;
 - ✓ Original hardwood floors;
 - ✓ Hand tools used in the construction of the log cabins remain fixtures on the interior walls.
- Exterior Features:
 - ✓ Veranda style front porch facing the lakeshore and a single triangular roofed stoop built off of the kitchen of the main log cabin;
 - ✓ Poured concrete foundations from materials sourced from the property and nearby lands;
 - ✓ Pitched roofs with ridge and gable ends.

Objections to the proposed designation must be received by the Clerk of the Township of Lake of Bays by Registered Mail or hand-delivered together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, not later than **4:00 p.m.** on the **23rd** day of **February 2009**. Objections will be referred to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and report.

Michelle Percival, Clerk,
1012 Dwight Beach Road,
Dwight, Ontario P0A 1H0

For further information please contact:
Carrie Sykes, (705) 635-2272, ext 236
Or at clerkasst@lakeofbays.on.ca