

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.

**4 RAYNOR ISLAND**

**Description of Property**

This Raynor Island property is comprised of the Theobald cottage (two-storey wood cottage), the Blue Wing cabin (one-storey wood cabin), an ice house and a two-seater outhouse all located on 2.70 acres on this historic Island on Lake of Bays that is representative of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century rustic Muskoka heritage.

**Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

Raynor Island was first surveyed in 1878 and granted by the Crown to W.P. Raynor for mining purposes in 1879.

Margaret Spaulding purchased the property on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1911 and had the original cabin built from materials harvested and sourced from the island property and local area exhibiting the vernacular architecture that was indigenous to this specific area and time period. The cabin operated as a tea room serving its customers under a covered veranda from the local resorts (Bigwin, Wa-Wa and Britannia Hotels) from 1911 to 1930 characterizing the historic development of Lake of Bays as a tourist resource and retreat.

The property was purchased in 1930 by Victor W. and Marie Hurst and they built the four sleeping cabins for their children and grandchildren (Blue Wing, Green Wing, Yellow Wing and Red Wing). These cabins remain in their original state located along pathways from the main cottage.

Raynor Island was one of the many stops for the S.S. Iroquois steamship on Lake of Bays to deliver supplies, people and the mail. The steamer dock was located in front of this Raynor Island property and the Theobalds constructed their current dock using the original cribbing. The Theobald property is archetypical of the settlement in the Muskoka area and is one of the remaining landmarks that has defined the character and history of the Lake of Bays area.

**Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key attributes that express the value of the wood structures located on the Theobald property as true examples of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century vernacular style that reflects alterations and adaptive reuse include:

Theobald Cottage

- Interior constructive features include rustic square timber beams, board and batten siding, period staircase and hand-crafted field stone fireplace;
- Associative cultural heritage value is exhibited with the characteristic covered veranda including many pieces of original furniture used to seat the tea room customers.
- Interior Features:
  - ✓ Original casement windows (centre window on south wall is etched "VW Hurst and Marie), window sills, doors, trim of windows and doors;
  - ✓ Aladdin and Angle fuel lamps with mounted match boxes;
  - ✓ Hand-crafted kitchen cupboards and shelves;
  - ✓ Hardwood and softwood floors;

- ✓ Late 19<sup>th</sup> century tea service (cups, saucers and tea pots) and commodes;
- ✓ Large fieldstone stove fireplace with andirons and swinging kettle (original kettle from Mrs. Spaulding's tea room);
- ✓ Framed American flag (45 stars/states);
- ✓ Early 20<sup>th</sup> century renowned Heinzman square grand piano;
- ✓ Original bookcase containing books and magazines from the early 1900's;
- ✓ Solid oak ice box;
- ✓ Barrel-style "Queen" wood heat stove with claw feet; and
- ✓ Traditional furniture dating back to early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Exterior Features:
  - ✓ Veranda style covered front porch facing the lakeshore;
  - ✓ Cedar shake siding;
  - ✓ Stone piers;
  - ✓ Vertical plank siding;
  - ✓ Pitched roof with ridge, gable ends and dormer.
- Additional associative cultural heritage value is exhibited with a tree mounted hand-carved sign indicating the direction of the Blue Wing, Green Wing, Yellow Wing and Red Wing cabins in measurement of giant paces.

#### Blue Wing Cabin

- Interior constructive features include vertical plank siding, peaked ceiling with unique eight point 2"x 4" support, hardwood flooring;
- Exterior constructive features include cedar shake siding, pitched roof and lakeshore location.

#### Ice House and Two-seater Outhouse

- Original split-door vertical planked two level seated outhouse.
- Wood crafted ice house, updated with original building materials.

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 **21<sup>st</sup>** day of **September, 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 [deputyclerk@lakeofbays.on.ca](mailto:deputyclerk@lakeofbays.on.ca)