

On June \*\*, 2024, Oakville Town Council resolved to pass a Notice of Intention to Designate the following property under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, as amended, as a property of cultural heritage value and interest:

Georgia Cottage  
19 Head Street  
PT LT 2, BLK 97, PL 1, AS IN 492068; OAKVILLE

### **Description of Property**

The property at 19 Head Street is located on the north side of Head Street, between Bond Street and Rebecca Street. The property contains a circa 1855 one-and-a-half storey frame house.

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

#### *Design and Physical Value*

Georgia Cottage has design and physical value as a representative example of a vernacular Oakville frame house with general Georgian and Neoclassical architectural influences. The home was built circa 1855 with characteristics influenced by Georgian elements of the home include its symmetrical façade and fenestration, as well as the simple rectangular massing and frame construction with stucco cladding. Neoclassical elements of the house include the transom window above the door and wooden window pediment lintels. A unique element is the Gothic Revival-style bargeboard that contributes to the quaint character of the house.

#### *Historical and Associative Value*

Georgia Cottage has historical value as it has direct associations with the Thomas family, who were important in the development of Oakville, including Merrick Thomas' wife, Esther, who was the first long-time owner of the house, and her son, Robert Murray Thomas, who was a respected member of the community and did important work as a deaf teacher in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The house is over 150 years old, and the Thomas family and descendants owned it for 109 years. The property is also associated with George Atkins, a farmer who played a key role in the early development of the Ontario Junior Farmers Association and the Halton Region Conservation Authority. He was a radio and television broadcaster and started Farm Radio International, a radio broadcasting company for developing countries. He earned many awards, received an honorary degree from the University of Guelph and was named a Member of the Order of Canada.

#### *Contextual Value*

Georgia Cottage is important in defining, supporting, and maintaining the character of the area. The local streetscape consists of mature trees and moderate to small lots which contain medium to small sized houses, many of them from the early days of settlement in the town. The subject house is one of the oldest in the neighbourhood and its presence adds to the historical character of the area. It sits on a corner lot, making it a prominent structure in the neighbourhood. Its presence calls back to Oakville's origins and the history of this area west of Oakville harbour as a working-class neighbourhood. The property is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings. It stands in its original location and continues to contribute to the character of the area as it has for over 150 years.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key attributes of the property at 19 Head Street that exemplify its cultural heritage value as a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century vernacular house frame house with general Georgian and

Neoclassical influences, as they relate to the west, south and east elevations of the original one-and-a-half storey portion, include:

- The massing of the rectangular one-and-a-half storey structure with side gable roof;
- Stucco cladding;
- Fenestration of the windows and front entrance;
- Wooden front door with vertical panels and window, with wooden transom window above;
- The presence of 2/2 wooden windows;
- Wooden window pediment lintels; and
- Wooden Gothic Revival-style bargeboard on east and west gables.

Any objection to this designation must be filed no later than July \*\*, 2024. Objections must be directed to the Town Clerk at [townclerk@oakville.ca](mailto:townclerk@oakville.ca) or 1225 Trafalgar Road, Oakville, Ontario L6H 0H3. The objection must include the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts.

Further information respecting this proposed designation is available from the Town of Oakville. Any inquiries may be directed to Carolyn Van Sligtenhorst, Supervisor of Heritage Conservation at 905-845-6601, ext.3875 (TTY 905-338-4200), or by email at [carolyn.van@oakville.ca](mailto:carolyn.van@oakville.ca).

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Hobbs House  
399 Spruce Street  
PT LOTS 95, 96, 97, PLAN 127; TOWN OF OAKVILLE

### **Description of Property**

The property at 399 Spruce Street is located on the north side of Spruce Street between Douglas Avenue and Watson Avenue, in the Tuxedo Park subdivision. The property contains a 1917 two-storey Craftsman bungalow known as the Hobbs House.

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

#### *Design and Physical Value*

The Hobbs House has design and physical value as a representative example of a Craftsman bungalow. The Craftsman style was inspired by the Arts and Crafts movement, which began in Britain as a reaction to the rapid growth of industry, and the movement spread to North America, promoting an architectural style that portrayed the home as a place of serenity in the natural environment. The house was built in 1917 with elements of this style, including: massing and form of the two-storey building with side gabled roof and central gabled dormer with deep overhang; a mix of materials, including buff brick cladding in a common bond pattern, wooden trim details, and dormer cladding of pebbledash and half timbering; wide front porch roof with wooden ceiling, curved wooden beams, brick piers, low wooden railings with rectangular posts and square pickets; and the fenestration of windows on the east, south, and west elevations, notably the bay window on the east elevation.

#### *Historical and Associative Value*

The Hobbs House has cultural heritage value for its direct associations with the theme of development of the local residential area known as 'Tuxedo Park', and still retains exterior heritage aspects that have lent to the neighbourhood's character over the last 100 years. It is also located just outside of the Brantwood neighbourhood and adds to the heritage character of that subdivision, which stems from the same period. Its presence contributes to the story of Oakville's early 20<sup>th</sup> century residential development that was defined by large lots with well-designed Arts and Crafts era homes built by well-to-do families.

#### *Contextual Value*

The Hobbs House has contextual value because it defines, supports and maintains the character of the Tuxedo Park and Brantwood neighborhood. It is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to the surrounding residential neighbourhoods and places the area's origins in a specific timeframe. The house was one of the earliest built in the area and one of the first in the Tuxedo Park subdivision specifically. As an anchor point in the neighbourhood, this house helps to define the original aesthetic of Tuxedo Park and Brantwood and continues to support and maintain the character of the neighbourhoods.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key heritage attributes of the property at 399 Spruce Street that exemplify its cultural heritage value as an early Craftsman bungalow from the Arts and Crafts era, as they relate to the historic two-storey brick house, include its:

- Massing and rectangular form of the two-storey building and its side gabled roof with small front gable, central gabled dormer, wide front porch, bump out on west elevation and bay window on east elevation;
- Buff brick cladding in a common bond pattern and two rows of brick voussoirs over windows;
- Buff brick chimney on east elevation;
- Deep roof overhangs with wooden soffits and fascia;
- Dormer cladding of pebbledash and wooden half timbering;
- Front porch with wooden ceiling, curved wooden beams, brick piers, and low wooden railing;
- Fenestration of windows on the east, south, and west elevations;
- The presence of multipaned windows in the Arts and Crafts style; and
- Concrete windowsills.

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William and Lucy Speers House  
14 Timber Lane  
PCL 48-1, SEC M11; LT 48, PL M11 ; OAKVILLE

### **Description of Property**

The property at 14 Timber Lane is located on the west side of Timber Lane between Seneca Drive and Lake Ontario, west of Bronte Village. The property contains a c.1920s two-storey vernacular Dutch Colonial Revival style house.

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

#### *Design and Physical Value*

The William and Lucy Speers House has design and physical value as a representative example of a c.1920s Dutch Colonial Revival style house. This style, identified by its gambrel roof, was popular throughout parts of North America, referencing early 18<sup>th</sup> century homes built by Dutch, Flemish and Huguenot settlers, particularly in the Hudson River Valley. Common in early 20<sup>th</sup> century suburbs, the style was equally popular with the wealthy for their cottages and lakeside retreats. The style became more common in the interwar period as mail order catalogues made the style more accessible. The house retains many heritage attributes that contribute to its heritage value as a Dutch Colonial Revival style house, including its intersecting gambrel roof, heavily-textured stucco cladding, front portico and multipaned windows.

#### *Historical and Associative Value*

The William and Lucy Speers House has cultural heritage value because of its direct associations with William and Lucy Speers, a prominent Bronte family, who had the house constructed. William developed the local residential neighbourhood, known as Mississauga Heights, in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as Bronte was becoming known as a summer resort town. The Speers were prominent, community-minded Bronte citizens. William Speers held a seat on the Trafalgar Township Council, and for over 30 years he was a director with the Oakville Fair, and the president of the Farmer's Institute. Lucy was a member of Walton Memorial Church for 70 years, and during that time she served as a long-term vice-president of the Women's Missionary Society. She also served on the first executive of the Halton County Women's Institute.

#### *Contextual Value*

The William and Lucy Speers House has cultural heritage value because it is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to this historic residential neighbourhood west of Bronte Harbour. The house remains one of the original historic buildings in the Mississauga Heights subdivision. The area was developed for residential development in the early 1900s and played an important role in Bronte as it enjoyed a period of popularity as a summer resort area. The former cottage area is today defined by: medium to large sized lots with a variety of homes built throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century; narrow streets with no sidewalks or curbs; large mature trees and deep setbacks; and views to the lake. While the area has developed and filled in over time with new lots and houses, the subject house continues to play a role in linking the area to its modest and recreational past.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key attributes of the William and Lucy Speers House that exemplify its value as a vernacular Dutch Colonial Revival house, as they relate to the original two-storey house, include:

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- The form and massing of the two-storey rectangular structure with intersecting gambrel roof;
- One-storey front portico with hipped roof, wood beams and wood round columns;
- Heavily textured traditional stucco cladding;
- Fenestration of windows on the east and north elevations;
- The presence of 6/1 wood windows with wood trim in the second storey gambrel ends and on the first storey of the north elevation; and
- The presence of multipaned wood windows on the front enclosed porch and rear enclosed porch; and
- The presence of a panelled wood door on the front enclosed porch.

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