

We seek your help in ensuring that 28 Daisy Avenue is preserved as a heritage building.

You can help by writing a letter to Heritage Preservation Services, City of Toronto.



September 20, 2012

Dear Neighbour,

I'm writing to ask you to help us to ensure that 28 Daisy Avenue, which is for sale, is preserved as a heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act.

You can help by writing a letter to Mary MacDonald at Heritage Preservation Services, City of Toronto, with copies to Ward 6 Etobicoke-Lakeshore Councillor Mark Grimes and local historical societies.

We have prepared a sample text, to which you can add your name and signature at the bottom, and which you can mail by Canada Post.

Alternatively, you can send an email to Mary MacDonald, using the sample text which you can download from a blog entry at the Preserved Stories website at www.preservedstories.com

You can also find the site by doing a browser search for "28 Daisy Avenue Preserved Stories."

When preparing your text as a printout, you may need to adjust the margins to ensure the text fits on one page.

In order to write your own letter to Mary MacDonald, you would need to add your name and address at the bottom of the letter – that part has been left blank – and email it in.

Please mark in today's date at the top of the letter, above "Dear Mary MacDonald."

Alternatively, you may wish to use the text as a starting point and make any revisions as you may wish, sign the letter, and mail by email or Canada Post.

On a separate page, we've added mailing information for sending copies of the letter, if you are mailing by Canada Post.

The email option is the quickest; getting as many letters as possible out quickly is important for us at this point. The sooner you are able to send such a letter, if you wish to help us, the better.

Your letter will be an important part of our attempt to persuade the City of Toronto to proceed with heritage protection for this property.

If you know of other people who may wish to help us by writing letters of their own please contact them and provide them the necessary information. If you do not have a computer and wish help in preparation of a letter, please let me know.

You can find details about my own background as a local resident at the Preserved Stories website. I was involved in a letter-writing project aimed at ensuring that Parkview School at 85 Forty First Street remains in public hands. We owe many thanks to Etobicoke-Lakeshore MPP Laurel Broten (now Minister of Education) and Ward 3, Etobicoke-Lakeshore Toronto District School Board Trustee Pamela Gough for ensuring a successful outcome for the Parkview project.

If you wish to be added to an email list for updates, for an email distribution list that I use to share local information related to heritage preservation and other topics, please send me an email.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

The sample text for a letter follows on the next page. Just add the date, and your name and address, and mail it to the addresses indicated. Please do it today.

Sincerely,

(Mr.) Jaan Pill,
19 Villa Road
Etobicoke ON M8W 1M4
416-252-0842

Mary MacDonald
Heritage Preservation Services
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 17th Floor, East Tower
Toronto ON
M5H 2N2
mmacdon7@toronto.ca

Dear Mary MacDonald:

I am writing in support of the nomination, by the Etobicoke Historical Society, of 28 Daisy Avenue for designation as a heritage property under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The property is the oldest remaining farmhouse in the lake front area of South Etobicoke. It is also the area's remaining link to a pre-Confederation agricultural era; the only remaining example in Etobicoke of stucco-over-stone construction; and the oldest remaining building in Long Branch.

The house at 28 Daisy Avenue was built in the Gothic Revival cottage style popular during the late 1800s. A small central gable over the front door features a small window. The two gable ends of the main roof enclose matching chimneys. The walls are two feet thick. The original owners, Richard and Lucy Newborn, emigrated from Lincolnshire, England between 1835 and 1837. They built the house before the 1852 census, on a 100-acre farm purchased in 1847. Their first-born daughter accompanied them from England. Four more daughters, and then three sons, were born in Canada.

The eldest son, Richard Robinson Newborn, born in 1843, worked the farm with his father. The son married Susannah Copeland in 1869 and the younger and older families lived together at the house. Richard Sr. died in 1879 followed by his wife Lucy in 1886. Richard Jr. operated the farm until his death in 1900. His wife Susannah died in 1911, after which the south 41 acres were sold to Colonel Frederick Burton Robins of the Lake Shore Land Co. Ltd.

Robins, who developed the land as the Lakeshore Gardens subdivision, preserved the house as the centre of the latter subdivision. The house was sold in 1911 to a neighbour, who owned it until his death in 1922. The next owner held the house until 1949. The next owner, in turn, lived in the house until 1977. Since then, the house has had at least seven owners. The home's heritage features have, for the most part, been retained.

As is the case with members of the Etobicoke Historical Society, and the Long Branch Historical Society, I strongly support the designation of this property under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Sincerely,

Copies:

Ward 6 Councillor Mark Grimes:

councillor_grimes@toronto.ca

Denise Harris, Etobicoke Historical Society:

denise.harris@sympatico.ca

Barry Kemp, Long Branch Historical Society:

paulpb_2003@yahoo.com

Copies to Mark Grimes and historical societies

Below are Canada Post addresses for people you can send copies of this letter to, if you're not sending your letters by email:

Councillor Mark Grimes
City Hall
100 Queen Street West, Suite C48
Toronto ON
M5H 2N2

Denise Harris
Etobicoke Historical Society
c/o Montgomery's Inn
4709 Dundas Street West
Etobicoke ON
M9A 1A8

Barry Kemp
c/o Long Branch Historical Society
3500 Lake Shore Blvd. West
Etobicoke ON
M8W 1N6