

Clause embodied in Report No. 3 of the Midtown Community Council, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its regular meeting held on April 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and its special meeting held on April 30, May 1 and 2, 2001.

1

**2 Donegall Drive (Agnes Macphail House)
Designation Under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act
(Don Valley West - Ward 26)**

(City Council at its regular meeting held on April 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and its special meeting held on April 30, May 1 and 2, 2001, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Midtown Community Council recommends that:

- (1) the report (September 1, 2000) from the Commissioner, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, be received; and**
- (2) the owner of 2 Donegall Drive be requested to provide and install a suitably worded plaque in an appropriate location on the property (for example the house or gate) as soon as possible, and Councillor Pitfield and staff from Heritage Services be requested to work with the owner in this regard.**

The Midtown Community Council submits the following report (September 1, 2000) from the Commissioner, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:

Purpose:

This report recommends that the property at 2 Donegall Drive (Agnes Macphail House) be designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) Council state its intention to designate the property at 2 Donegall Drive (Agnes Macphail House) under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.**
- (2) the Long and Short Statements of Reasons for Designation be included in the designating by-law.**

- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

At its meeting of January 10, 2000, the East York LACAC Panel requested that the property at 2 Donegall Drive be designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Comments:

A Short Statement of Reasons for Designation is outlined below. A Heritage Property Report (Long Statement of Reasons for Designation), including visuals, is available for viewing from the City Clerk. Both the Long and Short Statements constitute the Reasons for Designation and will be included in the designating by-law.

Reasons for Designation

The property at 2 Donegall Drive is recommended for designation for architectural and historical reasons. In 1948, Agnes Macphail purchased the corner property with the street addresses of 2 Donegall Drive and 720 Millwood Road in Leaside. The duplex was constructed in 1937.

Agnes Macphail was the first woman elected to Canada's House of Commons in 1921 where she served for nearly two decades. In Parliament she championed labour and farm issues, the equality of women and prison reform. She was the first female member of the Canadian delegation to the League of Nations in 1929. Entering provincial politics, Agnes Macphail was one of the first two women elected to the Ontario Legislature where she represented York East from 1943-1945 and 1948-1951. She was responsible for Ontario's first equal pay legislation in 1951.

The Agnes Macphail House is designed in the Modern style. Rising two stories, the duplex displays an ell-shaped plan beneath a flat roof. The building is clad with buff brick with buff brick corner quoins and band courses, and stone window sills. The east façade on Donegall Drive is organized into two bays. An entrance with a single door, transom and bracketed entablature is located under an octagonal window and beside two flat-headed tripartite window openings with multi-paned sash windows. On the three-bay south façade, a similarly-detailed entrance to No. 720 Millwood Road is surmounted by an octagonal window and positioned between two floors of flat-headed tripartite window openings. On the ell-wing at the west end of the building, the south wall has two flat-headed window openings with 8-over-8 multi-paned sash windows. The north and west walls have similar elements. The single-storey addition on the west end is not identified in the Reasons for Designation as a significant feature.

The Agnes Macphail House is located on the northwest corner of Donegall Drive and Millwood Road in Leaside. Historically significant as the residence of an important Canadian politician, the Agnes Macphail House is a carefully-detailed example of Modern styling.

Conclusions:

The Toronto Preservation Board recommends that City Council state its intention to designate the property at 2 Donegall Drive (Agnes Macphail House) under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Contact:

Rita Davies
Managing Director of Culture
Telephone: 397-5323; Fax: 395-0278

List of Attachments:

Attachment No. 1 – Location Map – 2 Donegall Drive
Attachment No. 2 – Photograph – 2 Donegall Drive

(Attachments referred to in the foregoing report were forwarded to Members of the Midtown Community Council with the agenda for its meeting on April 3, 2001, and copies thereof are on file in the office of the City Clerk, North York Civic Centre.)

The Midtown Community Council also submits the following communication (February 20, 2001) from the City Clerk, addressed to Councillor Pitfield:

The Midtown Community Council at its meeting on February 13, 2001 had before it a report (September 1, 2001) from the Commissioner, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommending that:

- (1) Council state its intention to designate the property at 2 Donegall Drive (Agnes Macphail House) under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*;
- (2) the Long and Short Statements of Reasons for Designation be included in the designating by-law; and
- (3) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The Midtown Community Council referred the foregoing matter to Councillor Pitfield, with a request that she:

- (i) convene a meeting, as soon as possible, with the owner of the property (Mr. David Simmons), staff from Heritage Services (Ms. Kathryn Anderson), Ms. Lorna Krawchuk (representing the Agnes Macphail Committee); and Mr. John Carter, or his designate (representing the Midtown Community Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Panel);

- (ii) discuss at such meeting the issue of designation and explore the historical listing; and
- (iii) submit a report thereon to the next meeting of the Community Council scheduled to be held on April 3, 2001.

The Midtown Community Council also submits the following communication (March 15, 2001) from Councillor Pitfield:

As per the directive at the February Midtown Community Council meeting, I organized and hosted a meeting of interested parties to discuss the possible historical designation of 2 Donegall Drive.

On Thursday, March 8th, Kathryn Anderson, Preservation Officer - Heritage Preservation Services, John Carter, East York LACAC, David Simmons, the owner of 2 Donegall Drive, met with me in my Constituency Office.

Mr. David Simmons stated that he did not want the property at 2 Donegall Drive to have historical designation. As his City Councillor, I support his position.

Mr. Simmons has offered to provide and install a plaque on the house or front gate noting that Agnes Macphail did live in the house. I believe this is an acceptable option.

The Midtown Community Council also had before it the following communications:

- (i) (March 29, 2001) from Ms. Lorna Krawchuk, Toronto, providing comments regarding the designation of 2 Donegall Drive; and
- (ii) (March 30, 2001) from Dr. John C. Carter, Toronto, forwarding a motion from the March 26, 2001 meeting of the East York Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee Panel.