

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
(REASONS FOR DESIGNATION)
24 MARINA AVENUE

ATTACHMENT NO. 4

The property at 24 Marina Avenue, formerly known as the Rectory of St. Agnes' Church, is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, for its cultural heritage value, and meets Ontario Regulation 9/06, the provincial criteria prescribed for municipal designation under all three categories of design, associative and contextual value.

Description

The property at 24 Marina Avenue, located on the north side of Marina Avenue, between Long Branch Avenue and Thirty-Third Street, is part of the St. Agnes church complex and contains the two-storey gable-roofed house-form rectory and a portion of the flat-roofed, two-storey, chapel-office building. The latter building spans across the 24 Marina Avenue property and the adjacent 69 Long Branch Avenue property linking the rectory with the church. The buildings are brick-clad and were completed in 1958 to the design of Murray Brown & Elton Architects.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The rectory and chapel-office block have design value as part of St. Agnes' Church complex which is a representative example of the Ecclesiastical Modern style which emerged in Toronto's church architecture following World War II. The style is evident in the combination of traditional building types such as the gable-roofed rectory with modern elements such as the flat roof of the chapel-office block, the projecting flat-roof entry canopies, the pierced brick screen supporting the canopy at the rectory entrance, the porcelain-enamelled window hood and the grey brick cladding. The consistency of the integration of traditional and modern elements in the church complex, of which the rectory and chapel-office block are an integral part, represents a high degree of artistic merit.

The rectory and chapel-office block have historic value as part of the St. Agnes' Church complex and for their association with the growth and development of Long Branch from a Victorian summer resort to a village to being integrated with the Borough of Etobicoke. St. Agnes' Church grew from being a temporary religious Anglican community housed in a tent in 1919 to an independent parish with a full complement of church facilities and programmes that played a significant role in the Long Branch community for over 85 years. It is also valued for its association with the noted Toronto architectural practise of Murray Brown & Elton Architects. The firm designed a number of Long Branch buildings including the library, and A. Gresley Elton was a member of St. Agnes' parish, a member of the Long Branch Planning Board as well as being a fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

The property at 24 Marina Avenue has contextual value and is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the Long Branch neighbourhood as part of

the former St. Agnes' Church complex at 69 Long Branch Avenue. Located on the north-east corner of Long Branch and Marina avenues, the church complex is a distinctive feature in the vista from Lakeshore Road to the waterfront and is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked with its surroundings. With its landscaped set-back, composition of building elements including the prominent spire, the St. Agnes Church complex is a landmark in Long Branch.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the property located at 24 Marina Avenue are:

- The placement, set back and orientation of the building as it is located within its property boundary on the north side of Marina Avenue.
- The massing of the building which has a gable roof on a rectangular plan
- The flat roof and the entrance on the west elevation
- The brick screen with creating a pattern of crosses supporting the flat roof at the entrance
- The grey brick cladding
- The ground floor window on the south façade with its green porcelain-enamelled decorative header details
- The arrangement of window and door openings on the south, west, north and east elevations
- The copper eaves details
- The chimney