

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

828 Sanatorium Road, Hamilton (Mountain Sanatorium Brow Site)

Description of Historic Place

The former Mountain Sanatorium Brow Campus (later Chedoke Browlands) is located at the northern terminus of Sanatorium Road which bisects the property along Chedoke Creek. The property is bounded by the Niagara Escarpment to the north and Scenic Drive curving to the south, forming semi-circular layout. The property includes open space, a woodlot, creek bed, a curvilinear street arrangement, and a number of remnants of the former institution including the Long & Bisby Building and the Cross of Lorraine. The property is addressed 828 Sanatorium Road, Hamilton (alternatively 870 Scenic Drive).

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The property located at 828 Sanatorium Road, Hamilton has cultural heritage value as one of the campuses of the original Mountain Sanatorium (“the San”), Hamilton’s tuberculosis hospital which originally opened in 1906. The San was Canada’s fourth sanatorium and, by 1932, one of the largest in the British Empire.

The Brow site was primarily purposed towards the treatment of First World War veterans who contracted tuberculosis while serving overseas. The property formerly contained six major buildings and a number of ancillary structures, most of which have been demolished. The only building that remains on site is the Long & Bisby Building (1920) which was built a residence for nurses. Built with funds bestowed by the original donors of the Sanatorium lands, W.D. Long and G.H. Bisby, the Long & Bisby Building is a representative example of Edwardian Classical architecture. The site later evolved to become part of Chedoke Hospital and was known locally as the “Chedoke Browlands”.

The property also has value as a cultural heritage landscape designed for the treatment of tuberculosis. These browlands were laid out as a purpose-built facility that capitalized on the natural landscape of the site for therapeutic puposes. The property contains a number of remnant features from its history as a hospital, including the Cross of Lorraine: a local landmark built in 1953 by well-known designer and advertiser E.L. Ruddy.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the property at 828 Sanatorium Road, Hamilton that display its cultural heritage value include:

The Long & Bisby Building:

- Its location in an open, park-like setting and adjacent to a woodlot;

- All exterior elevations and additions;
- Roof profile and roofline;
- Entrance portico including:
 - Paired, Corinthian-inspired columns;
 - Simple cornice brackets; and,
 - Low metal railing.
- Decorative entrance including:
 - Doorway;
 - Webbed fanlight;
 - Sidelights; and,
 - Brick voussoir.
- Eight-bay buff brick façade with projecting ends;
- Brick parapet including:
 - Lower frieze board;
 - Stone finial accent; and,
 - Inset stone block.
- All windows, window openings, stone sills, and side trim brick headers.

Landscape Features:

- The park-like setting as a cultural heritage landscape with curvilinear street pattern and open spaces designed for therapeutic purposes;
- Significant views to, through, and from the former Mountain Sanatorium Brow Campus as well as significant views to and from the Niagara Escarpment;
- The Cross of Lorraine located along the edge of the Niagara Escarpment;
- The pedestrian bridge over the Chedoke Creek;
- The concrete stairs along the edge of the Niagara Escarpment; and,
- The stone vehicular bridge and associated stone wall/pillars located west of the Long & Bisby Building.