

Homes & Gardens

An Oakville Beaver Feature To reach this section call 845-3824 Fax:337-5567



Historic home is in the path of the new Hwy. 407 ETR extension, so it has to go. The asking price is just \$5,000 but the successful buyer will have to move it off site.

Historic home a steal at \$5,000. but there's just one catch...

By Nancy Alexander
SPECIAL TO THE BEAVER

If you're looking for something more in a house than the usual four bedrooms and main floor family room, how about considering 150 years of history at the bargain price of \$5,000?

A mid-19th century home, identified in Town records as the George Halliday House, is currently advertised for sale "and relocation" by SLF Joint Venture, constructors of the 407 ETR extensions.

The house must be relocated to make room for the highway and proposals are being invited for the sale and removal of the structure, no later than Nov. 30th.

Located at 4166 Fourth Line in Oakville (north of Burnhamthorpe and west of Neyagawa Blvd.), the two-storey frame house is listed in the Town of Oakville's inventory of heritage buildings.

Richard Unterman of Unterman McPhail Associates in Toronto was enlisted by SLF Joint Venture to conduct a heritage assessment on the property.

He told the Beaver that from a historical perspective, the house was well worth preserving and has been left in reasonable condition by its long-term tenants.

The house was expropriated by the government some 20 years ago when land was amassed as part of the parkway belt proposal. The Ontario Realty Corporation has rented the property out since that time.

Unterman said the house was a significant piece of real estate for its day, with the name of the builder, George Halliday, appearing on maps and other documents of the time.

Over the years, a rear addition has been added to the back of the structure, but many original details have been preserved.

Unterman says some of the original glass is still intact, as well as the interior woodwork, doors and staircase. Particularly noteworthy, he says, is the detailing on the front door and the original staircase.

Unterman estimates the size of the house, including the rear addition, to be approximately 1,200 to 1,500 sq. ft.

Although the asking price seems ridiculously low by today's standards, the successful bidder will have to plan on spending \$20,000 to \$30,000 to move the property, depending on the distance, plus an additional \$10,000 or more for a police escort, the movement of hydro lines and the like. And then, of course, there's the cost of buying land and building a foundation.

"It's still a worthwhile endeavour," says Unterman, "and conceivably, the owner could elect to take only the original front part of the house and build on to it at a later date."

If a buyer can't be found, efforts will be made to selectively salvage as much of the original detailing of the house as possible before demolition.

Opportunities to view the property with a representative of SLF will be available between the hours of 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. tomorrow.

All proposals for the house should state the following: 1) the name of the party and/or organization, 2) the method of removal, 3) the proposal for site relocation, and 4) the estimated date for removal. In addition, a presentation of liability insurance and performance security satisfactory to SLF Joint Venture will be required.

All submissions should be faxed to 416-201-5926, to the attention of Betty Fevreau, SLF Joint Venture. Telephone 416-252-5311, ext. 5341. Email: fevrb@snc-lavalin.com. Proposals received after Nov. 20th will not be considered.

Home Depot DIY clinics for everyone

The Home Depot outlet in Oakville is holding two free 'how to' clinics in the coming weeks for local do-it-yourselfers.

On Sat. Nov. 13 and 21st, learn how to 'Winterize you Home to Save Money and Energy at 11 a.m.

On the same dates at 2 p.m., learn how to install recessed pot lights.

And on Sun. Nov. 14 and 21st at 11 a.m., learn how to install ceiling fans and at 2 p.m. on those dates, learn how to lay ceramic tile.

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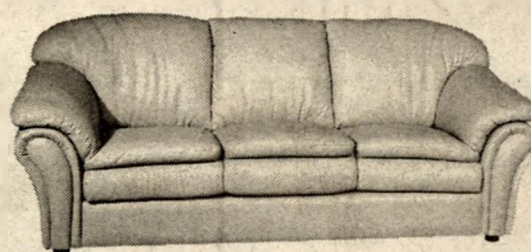
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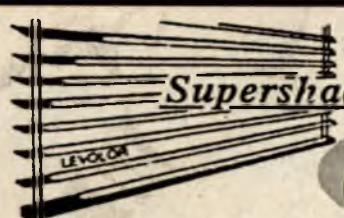
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