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BY-LAW NUMBER 55 OF 1993

OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ST. MARYS

Being a By-Law to designate the property known municipally as (st. Marys Junction Station) as being of architectural value or interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact bylaws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys has caused to be served upon the owners of the lands and premises known municipally as (St. Marys Junction Station) and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks; and

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the municipality;

THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- There is designated as being of architectural value or interest the real property known municipally as (St. Marys Junction Station) more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto.
- 2) The Municipal Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the properties described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper land registry office.
- 3) The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS TWELFTH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1993.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS TWELFTH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1993.

READ A THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS TWELFTH DAY OF OCTOBER 1993.

MAYOR

LERK

"SCHEULE A"

Reasons for the Proposed Designation

St. Marys Junction Station

The St. Marys Junction Station was constructed in 1858 under the supervision of the famous Canadian Contractor Sir Casimir Gzowski, as a major station on the Toronto to Sarnia Branch of the Grand Trunk Railway. Local master masons, Alexander McDonald and Francis Anderson, also responsible for the London Railway Viaduct in 1857-8, were awarded the contract for its construction.

This station follows the model favoured by the Grand Trunk, which includes round-arched openings, a low-pitched roof, and extended eaves which protected a platform. Remarkably, these openings still contain their original French doors with transoms above; in all the other early stations on the line they have been filled in to sill height and made into windows.

The St. Marys limestone has been beautifully coursed and finished: the corner-stones are alternately smooth and rough-faced. The voussoirs over the door openings have rock-faced keystones. The four massive capped stone chimneys are still in place.

What is most remarkable of all -- indeed a unique feature of this station -- is the presence of the original interior partitions often with their original paint. Ladies' and mens' waiting rooms and station agent's office are still clearly indicated. Evidence also remains of the telegraph line at which Thomas Alva Edison, the inventor, is said to have worked in 1862-3.

Until World War I the Junction Station was a major shipping point from which local grain and stone was shipped both throughout Ontario and to major centres such as Toronto and Montreal. From/here, as well, cattle and eggs were shipped to England and Scotland. The exporting of these local resources and products was chiefly responsible for the prosperity of nineteenth century St. Marys.

The St. Marys Junction Station is an extremely rare and important building. Of the few surviving stone stations on the original Grand Trunk line in Ontario, it is the only one which possesses its original interior and exterior design. It is a building important not only to St. Marys but to the entire province.