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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST CARLETON

BY-LAW NO. 100 OF 2000

Being a By-law to designate the property known municipally as 1038 Oak Creek Road as being of architectural and historical value or interest.

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

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of West Carleton has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as the Prior House at 1038 Oak Creek Road and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real 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 Township of West Carleton enacts as follows:

- There is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest the real property known as the Prior House at 1038 Oak Creek Road, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto, and for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" hereto.
- 2) The municipal solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property 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 owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.
- 4) Notice is hereby served on every person who, from time to time, becomes the owner of 1038 Oak Creek Road, that Notice of the change of ownership must be served upon the Municipality within 30 days of becoming an owner of this property, pursuant to Section 35 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended.

Passed and given under the hands of the Mayor and Clerk and the Corporate Seal of The Corporation of the Township of West Carleton this 21st day of November, 2000.

Monica Ceschia CLERK MAYOR

SCHEDULE "A" to BY-LAW 100 of 2000

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and lying and being in the Township of West Carleton (former Township of Huntley) and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, and the Province of Ontario, being composed of Part of Lot 10, Concession 1, more particularly described as Part 2 on Plan 5R-11206 and Part 1 on Plan 5R-10457.

SCHEDULE "B" to BY-LAW 100 of 2000

Reasons For Designation

The property known as the William Gourlay Estate, built in the late 1850's on land owned by the Gourlays from the 1830's. Oakleigh, one of two stone houses built by the early Irish settlers from County Tyrone, Ireland, and the only one remaining, is a fine old Georgian, 3 storey rubble stone home, built in the traditional centre hall plan. Builder unknown, it is probably that the building was built by contractors, in one go. There have been pieces of charcoal retrieved from the stone work in the loft indicating winter construction and the loft has some very large stones suggesting the work was done by a professional crew. The stone masons working on the restoration suggest that the limestone may have come from the Eastern townships as ballast on a timber boat and the rock used for the new terraces came from Hemmingsford. Others suggested sources including quarries in Nepean. The Gourlay family history is well documented and further material will soon be deposited in the Carp Library. This particular house is mentioned in John Gourlay's History of the Ottawa Valley, II Walker's Carleton Saga, the Irish in Ontario, and Rose Gourlay Gosse's Those Grey Stone Walls among other publications.

The Gourlay family was known for their strong ties to the Presbyterian Church, ties to politics and education and Oakleigh is reputed to have won a medal at the Chicago Worlds Fair for its alfalfa. After the Gourlays left, the house was owned by Senator John Bracken of Manitoba fame and a great horse breeder. A movie, (Palominos), was filmed in part on the property and the Ottawa Journal also wrote on the topic. More recently the farm has been a sod farm and is currently an organic farm. The house was extensively restored and enlarged in 1992-93. The architect was Julian Smith, noted heritage activist and restorer of the Cattle Castle and designer of the Parliamentary Visitors Pavilion.