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September 28, 2016

Ontario Heritage Trust  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1J3  
Attn: Erin Semande  
Acting Ontario Heritage Registrar

Re: Designation of the Bawcutt Centre

Dear Ms. Semande,

Please find enclosed the notice of the County of Brant's Councils intention to designate the Old Town Hall now known as the Bawcutt Centre. A motion to designate was made at the August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Brant Heritage Committee. The report and motion was forwarded to the Planning Advisory Committee on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 which approved the request to designate.

The report was presented at County of Brant's Council meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup> which was also approved. The County is in the process of advertising the intent to designate and the 30 day appeal period will begin on Friday September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Please let me know if you require any further information in designating this structure.

Best regards,

Carol Moore  
Development Services Clerk  
County of Brant



**COUNTY OF BRANT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Council of the County of Brant hereby gives notice of the intention to designate the Paris Old Town Hall, now known as The Bawcutt Centre located at 13 Burwell Street, Lots 6 & 7, West of Burwell Street, Part Lots 6 & 7, East of Dumfries Street, designated as Parts 1 & 2, 2R-2832, former Town of Paris, County of Brant under Part 4 of the Ontario Heritage Act. A by-law to designate the hall will be presented for Council's consideration after the 30 day appeal period has lapsed with no appeals.

**BACKGROUND - REASONS FOR DESIGNATION:**

**Historical**

The Town Council of the village of Paris formed a committee on February 7, 1853 to commission an architect to design a hall suitable for a number of uses for the growing village. The hall, designed by John Maxwell, was completed in 1854 at a cost of \$12,000.00, served the village as the Town Hall, Council Chamber, Office of the Magistrate, prisoners' jail cell and indoor farmers market. When a new town hall was constructed in 1904 in what is today's downtown core, the hall served many more uses such as a residence, an Opera House, a role during the First World War, a home for Mary Maxim and most recently an auction house.

**Architectural**

The hall has been described by Professor Malcolm Thurlby, an expert in Medieval Art and Architecture of the York University, "as a building of international significance in the story of civic Gothic architecture." Normally Gothic design was reserved for the construction of churches making the design ahead of its time and predates the Parliament buildings in Ottawa, which also used the Gothic design, by 5 years.

Many of the original features still exist with Gothic style lancets over the entry ways and windows, along with brick tracery above. Although in need of repair many of the original windows are intact with 12 over 12 or 9 over 12 panes. The second floor assembly hall has high curved ceilings and still features the original wooden beams and cross bracings below the ceiling and wide plank flooring.

Excluded from the designation are the two later additions and the wooden structure at the top of the bell tower.

For further information, or to make comments either in support of or in opposition to the proposed designation, please submit written comments by fax, e-mail, mail or in person **on or before October 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m.** to:

Heather Boyd  
Clerk, County of Brant  
26 Park Ave., Box 160  
Burford, Ontario  
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519-449-2451  
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