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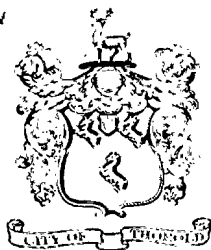


Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

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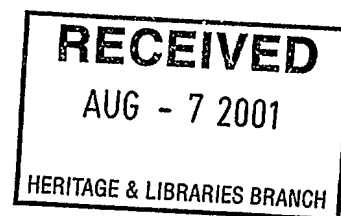
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Ce document est tiré du registre électronique, tenu aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **[www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.



# CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THOROLD

August 1, 2001



Ministry of Citizenship, Culture & Recreation  
Cultural Programs Branch  
Heritage Properties & Museums Programs Unit  
77 Bloor Street West, 2nd Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2R9

Attention: Mr. John Ota

Dear Mr. Ota:

Re: Notice of Intention to Designate  
Ontario Heritage Act  
Beaverdams Burying Ground - Smith's Cemetery  
Beaverdams Road, City of Thorold

✓ file

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of a Notice of Intention to Designate the above noted property in accordance with Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18. This notice will be published in the Thorold News on Saturday August 4, 2001.

You have been notified as required under the provisions of Section 29(3) of the Act.

I trust this is in order.

Yours very truly,

*A. McDermott for*

Adele Arbour, M.C.I.P., R.P.P.,  
City Planner

AA:am  
Attach.

cc. Heritage Thorold L.A.C.A.C.  
J.K. Bice, City Clerk



## NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18 AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION IN THE CITY OF THOROLD, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Thorold intends to designate The Old Beaverdams Burying Ground known as the "Smith's Cemetery" located on the north side of Beaverdams Road near the intersection of Beaverdams Road and Decew Road, as a property of historical value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 Chapter 0.18, Section 29.

### SHORT STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION:

The Old Beaverdams Burying Ground  
"Smith's Cemetery"  
North Side of Beaverdams Road, near  
The Intersection of Beaverdams Road and  
Decew Road  
Thorold, Ontario

As stated in "Landscapes of Memories - a Guide for Conserving Historic Cemeteries" Ontario Gov't 1997, there are approximately 120 cemeteries designated in the Province of Ontario...one of them at Thorold's Beaverdams Church (c. 1832). Old cemeteries tell us so much of our history and are, therefore, important as an educational tool for present and future generations.

Historic designation is recommended for this site not only because of its age, but because of its connection to early settlers, the War of 1812, the original folk art and the Grimsby Granite and Niagara Escarpment Limestone used on the markers.

The land was not dedicated as a burying ground until the 1820's, but burials were in fact recorded here as early as 1801. This has been a burying ground for 200 years, making it one of the oldest cemeteries in Niagara and likely the oldest "free and public burying ground" in our City. Although history dates the oldest recorded burial at this site as 1801, there were likely earlier burials there as well. This is the resting place of many of the earliest settlers of Thorold Township and continued to be used for burials for pioneer families throughout the 19th and into the 20th centuries.

A list of those buried at this site is published by the Ontario Genealogical Society but may not be a complete listing. Some of the names mentioned in LACAC's research report are Weaver, Courke, Hansel, Hagar, Seburn, Goforth, Bell, Hopkins, Marlatt, Cleveland, Hoover, Wellington and Smith. The unique site and surroundings make this a picturesque area.

What may be the oldest stone in the cemetery is 1805. Many of the stones, some with decorative motifs, are difficult to read but they have unique and interesting designs and epitaphs.

Designation would make this the oldest piece of history to be preserved in the City of Thorold.

Any person may object to the proposed designation within thirty (30) days after the date of the publication of the Notice of Intention by serving on the Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Thorold a notice of objection setting out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. The last day for filing objections will be Monday, September 3, 2001. All objections received within the aforementioned time period will be referred to the Heritage Conservation Review Board for a hearing and report.

**DATED at the City of Thorold this 4th day of August, 2001.**

J. K. Bice, City Clerk  
Corporation of the City of Thorold  
P.O. Box 1044, 8 Carleton Street South  
Thorold, Ontario L2V 4A7