

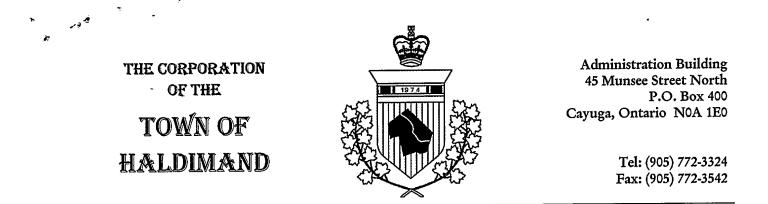
An agency of the Government of Ontario



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August 18, 1998

Ontario Heritage Foundation 10 Adelaide Street East, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Toronto ON M5C 1J3

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please find enclosed a copy of Town of Haldimand By-law No. 1483/98 which designates Ruthven Estate as being of historical and architectural value and interest under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) Jane Van Dalen Deputy Clerk

JVD:mt encl.

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# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HALDIMAND

## **BY-LAW** # 1483 **/98**

Being a By-law to designate the property known municipally as Ruthven Estate, situated on Part of Lot 1 to 11, in the River Range and Part of Lots 25 and 27, Concession 1, Southeast of Stoney Creek Road, designated as Part 1 on Plan 18R-4603, known municipally as 243 Highway No. 54, in the former Township of Seneca, now in the Town of Haldimand, Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk as being of historical and architectural value and interest.

WHEREAS <u>The Ontario Heritage Act</u>, R.S.O., 1990, C.18, 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 historical value or interest; and,

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Haldimand has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as Ruthven Estate, situated on Part of Lot 1 to 11, in the River Range and Part of Lots 25 and 27, Concession 1, Southeast of Stoney Creek Road, designated as Part 1 on Plan 18R-4603, known municipally as 243 Highway No. 54, in the former Township of Seneca, now in the Town of Haldimand, Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk, and upon The Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate the aforesaid property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality for one week; and

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

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" hereto;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Haldimand enacts as follows;

That the real property known as Ruthven Estate, situated on Part of Lot 1 to 11, in the River Range and Part of Lots 25 and 27, Concession 1, Southeast of Stoney Creek Road, designated as Part 1 on Plan 18R-4603, known municipally as 243 Highway No. 54, in the former Township of Seneca, now in the Town of Haldimand, Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk, be designated as being of historical and architectural value and interest, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law.

That a copy of this by-law will be registered in the property land registry office against the property described in Schedule "B" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law.

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That 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 municipality for one week.

READ a first and second time this 4th day of August, 1998.

READ a third time and finally passed this 4th day of August, 1998.

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## SCHEDULE "A"

**REASONS FOR DESIGNATION:** 

Ruthven Estate and its immediate demesne are worthy of designation under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act for historical and architectural reasons, for its uniqueness and remarkably high quality of its complement of detail and long association.

Ruthven Estate, the main house and its wing designed by the master building/architect, John Latshaw, is considered his masterpiece in the domestic field and Ontario's Finest house in the Greek Revival style, believed to be without peer in the whole of Canada and vying with the best in the United States of America.

Historically the property is important for its connection with five generations of Thompson family, entrepreneurs responsible for milling and related enterprises on this section of the Lower Grand River as well as being involved in early improvements to the waterway. Earlier generations of this originally Scots family were much involved in political and military as well as community affairs. Granted some 1200 acres of lands by the Crown in the early 1840s the estate still has contiguous lands of that or greater area with important natural habitats of woodlands, wetlands as well as agricultural area.

The buildings, particularly the main house and its rear wing, contain many possessions such as decorative fittings, furniture and art, are part of the Thompson family collection, as well as documents pertaining to the estate, local history and military and parliamentary affairs. These, apart from the architectural fittings, do not form part of this designation, but are included under a separate easement.

#### Architectural Items Designated:

Ruthven Estate - Main House and Wing (c.1845); East Wing Addition (c.1884); South Wing (c.1860); South-East Wing (c.1880); Coachhouse/Stable (c.1845); Tack Room Addition (c.1865); Gatehouse (c.1867); Garden walls (c.1845 & early twentieth century); Thompson Family Burial Ground (c.1840 to present); Hill House (c.1840, Indiana).

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#### SCHEDULE "B"

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being composed of Part of Lots 1 to 11, in the River Range, and Part of Lots 25 and 27, Concession 1, Southeast of Stoney Creek Road, formerly in the Township of Seneca, in the County of Haldimand, now in the Town of Haldimand, in the Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk, and being designated as part 1 on Plan 18R-4603, known municipally as 243 Highway No. 54.