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Thorold

April 8, 2010

Mr. Richard Moorhouse,
Executive Director,
Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Dear Mr. Moorhouse:

Re: Notice of Intention to Designate
Ontario Heritage Act
The Griffiths House
1840 Decew Road
City of Thorold, Ontario

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 O.18. This notice will be published in Niagara News on April 14, 2010.

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

I trust this is in order.

Yours truly,

Adele Arbour, MCIP, RPP
Director of Planning & Building Services

AA/em
Attach.

cc: Heritage Thorold LACAC
Susan Daniels, City Clerk

City of Thorold

P.O. Box 1044, 3540 Schmon Parkway, Thorold, Ontario L2V 4A7

www.thorold.com

Tel: 905-227-6613

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 Griffiths House located at 1840 DeCew Road at the northwest corner of Lot 52, north and west of Beaverdams Road, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 2005 Chapter 0.18, Section 29.

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION:

The Griffiths House
1840 DeCew Road
Part Township Lot 52 Pt Rd Allow Closed
Thorold, Ontario

The Griffiths House is located at 1840 DeCew Road north and west of Beaverdams Road.

Cultural Heritage Value

This stone house that has occupied the extreme northwest corner of Lot 52 in the former Township of Thorold for some 90 years is a greatly significant link between the early history of Thorold Township and its changing face in the 20th century. Indeed part of the house sits atop land originally set aside more than two centuries ago for a possible township road.

Architectural Value

The architectural style of this house is predominantly Colonial Revival but features elements of other styles as well, apparently the choices and preferences of the original owner/builder George Griffiths who designed the house himself, bringing together an eclectic and harmonious mix of style elements that collectively give the house its individuality. Colonial Revival style was largely based on the English colonial architecture of the 13 Colonies. 1840 DeCew Road much resembles the Dutch colonial style - particularly with its roof that flares out at the eaves. This house is unique in its use of stone as the building material for the first storey. The French doors flanking the central front door are more typical of Victorian or Regency Cottage styles, while the porch, portico and entranceway are Neo-Classical. The house is constructed of limestone which came from the ruins of the roadhouse which once stood at the intersection of Beaverdams and DeCew Roads. This stone presumably came from one of the old Thorold quarries. The upper part of the house is clad in siding. The two stone chimneys on either side of the house have been reconstructed from the roof line. The French storm doors in the front of the house were also restored.

Historical Value

This home was built on land once part of one of Thorold Township's many prosperous homestead farms, but this property, since 1922, has been residential and not agricultural. Home to members of the Griffiths family for the better part of the 20th century, the house is particularly notable for its long association with this intriguing family of socially concerned and active community builders, particularly Gertrude Knapp, socialist and activist, whose ongoing and valuable contribution to her community's political and social development received local and provincial recognition.

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available in the Planning and Building Services Department during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, 227-6613, 3540 Schmon Parkway, 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 **Friday, May 14, 2010**. 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 14th day of April, 2010

Susan Daniels, City Clerk
Corporation of the City of Thorold
P.O. Box 1044, 3540 Schmon Parkway
Thorold, Ontario L2V 4A7