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Doug Darbyson
Director of Planning &
Development

rec'd
June 16/98

June 12, 1998

Richard Moorhouse
Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3

Dear Mr. Moorhouse:

**Re: Heritage Designation
Niagara Falls Armoury
5049 Victoria Avenue**

On behalf of the Council of the City of Niagara Falls, please be advised that the Niagara Falls Armoury has been designated as a place of historic and architectural significance under the regulations of the Ontario Heritage Act. A copy of By-law 98-113 is attached for your records; a second copy has been registered on title at the Registry Office.

Designation by City Council reflects the current Federal Government status of the Armoury as a "Recognized" structure because of its historical association. While the local designation may not be binding with the Federal departments, it would apply to the property should the Armoury pass into private hands. We have requested that any work to the exterior of the Armoury be undertaken with regard to the heritage elements associated with its design and that LACAC be notified of any such work or a sale of the property. A plaque will be mounted on the outside of the Armoury to identify the property as a designated heritage building.

Yours truly,

Alex Herlovitch
Deputy Director of Planning & Development

AH/tc
Attach.

c: E. C. Wagg, City Clerk

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CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS

By-law No. 98-113

A by-law to designate the property at 5049 Victoria Avenue, known as the Niagara Falls Armoury, to be of historic and architectural value and interest.

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

AND WHEREAS The Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls has caused to be served upon the owner of the property described in Schedule "A" hereto and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate the property and has caused such notice of intention to designate to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality on April 11, 1998;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out as Schedule "B" hereto;

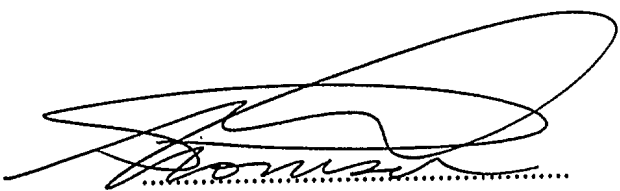
AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served upon the Clerk of the municipality.

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The property, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto, known as the Niagara Falls Armoury, is hereby designated to be of historic and architectural value and interest.
2. The City 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 City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Niagara Falls.

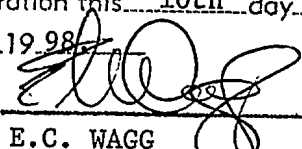
Passed this eighth day of June, 1998.


.....
E. C. WAGG, CITY CLERK


.....
WAYNE THOMSON, MAYOR

First Reading	June 8, 1998
Second Reading	June 8, 1998
Third Reading	June 8, 1998

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls, hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of By-law No. 98-113, dated June 8, 1998, of the said City. Given under my hand and the seal of the said Corporation this 10th day of June 1998.


.....
E. C. WAGG Clerk

SCHEDULE "A" to By-law No. 98-113.

All and singular that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the City (formerly in the Town) of Niagara Falls, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara and being composed of Part of Lot No. one hundred and nine (109) of the former Township of Stamford described as follows:

COMMENCING at the South East angle of said Lot Number 109;

THENCE Northerly along the West side of Victoria Avenue one hundred and twenty-five feet to a point in a reservation for a Street;

THENCE Westerly and parallel with the Southern line of said lot No. 109, along the South limit of said reservation for Street three hundred and ten feet to a point;

THENCE Southerly and parallel with Victoria Avenue one hundred and twenty-five feet more or less to the said Southern limit of lot No. 109 and;

THENCE Easterly along said Southern limit three hundred and ten feet to the place of beginning, being also shown as the Easterly three hundred and ten feet of Block five (5) according to Plan No. 35 registered for the Town of Niagara Falls, together with a right of way for a public road over the most Southerly sixty feet of Block No. 6 adjacent to said Block 5 according to said Plan No. 35.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

HISTORY:

The Niagara Falls Armoury is one of eleven drill halls built in Ontario between 1896 and 1918. The construction of the building in 1911 was part of a building campaign undertaken in conjunction with the reform and expansion of the Active Volunteer Militia while Frederick Borden was Minister of Militia and Defense (1896-1911). This was a period of unprecedented reform which turned the Canadian militia from a disorganized, poorly equipped citizens' militia into a competent fighting unit. Thus, the Canadian militia was well prepared for action when the first World War erupted.

The Armoury functioned as both a training and recruitment centre during World War I. Thus, the building quickly became an integral part of the social and cultural history of the City. The Armoury created a strong military presence in the City and generated a significant amount of national patriotism and local pride among those who signed on to serve during the First Great War.

At the time it was erected, the Armoury served the Lincoln militia. In 1935, they amalgamated to become the Lincoln and Welland militia. Since then, the Armoury has had a continuing role in military action through the Second World War and Korean War, right to the present time.

ARCHITECTURE:

The architect responsible for the design of the Niagara Falls Armoury was T. W. Fuller. Fuller held the position of Military Architect with the Chief Architects Branch of the Department of Public Works from 1902 to 1918. T. W. Fuller was the son of Thomas Fuller, the Federal architect responsible for the monumental former Post Office and Custom House on Zimmerman Street (former Police Building), which is a locally-designated heritage property. T. W. Fuller's design of the Niagara Falls Armoury is based on medieval fortifications. The building has a substantial architectural form incorporating many details which add to the impression of a significant defense facility. The square plan of the building incorporates wall treatments which step out at the corners to simulate defense towers. The walls incorporate buttresses which add to the image impregnability. The walls terminate in a parapet feature and incorporate a slight crenellation used in the protection of ancient castle design. The walls are further articulated with the use of corbelled stonework in various locations. The front entrance is emphasized with a projecting surround and triple Tudor gothic arch which creates a massive quality. The building is constructed of red brick with stone foundation, sills, window surrounds, corbels, capping and decorative shields. Much of this original character has been modified by a covering of paint.

The Armoury holds an important position on the street, with a spacious front lawn. Thus, it has become a local landmark. The former parade ground at the rear of the drill hall has become a vehicle compound in recent times.

The Armoury is not only an architectural landmark, it also holds important cultural and historical significance to the community.