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JUN 22 2016

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS **129 VICTORIA STREET, WALKERBY-GEORGE HOUSE (PT LOT 23 PT LOT 24)**, IN THE TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

### **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

TO: THE ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST, 10 ADELAIDE STREET EAST,  
TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5C 1J3

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake intends to designate the property, including the lands and building known municipally as **129 VICTORIA STREET, WALKERBY-GEORGE HOUSE** as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18.

#### **Description of Property**

The subject property contains a two-storey Gothic Revival dwelling that sits on a large lot on Victoria Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The cultural heritage value of 129 Victoria Street lies in its being a rare example of a Gothic Revival house in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Although Gothic Revival homes were common throughout rural Ontario, they were less common in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Many original elements have been preserved and the main house still features a three bay façade, centre-hall pattern, gabled roof, and a decorative small steeple, lacey treillage or "ginger-bread" trim. Joseph Walkerby or Edward H. Thompson likely constructed the dwelling in the 1860s or early 1870s.

With the exception of the addition of modern heating, and turning a bedroom into a bathroom, the past owners of 129 Victoria Street have maintained the spirit of this early Victorian house inside as well. Many original interior details remain including floors, trim, doors, windows, the staircase with railings and the centre-hall floorplan.

The cultural heritage value of 129 Victoria Street also lies in the large size of the property which is characteristic of estate lots found throughout Old Town and is representative of the ideals of the picturesque concept of the Gothic style. The white picket fence at the front further enhances the property and was once a typical feature of dwellings in the area.

Previous owners of the property include J.B. Roddy, Sarah L. Hudson, B. Roddy, Joseph Walkerby, Victoria Allison, Charles D. Marshall, Virginia McLean, Kate Fuchs, Henry A. Garrett, Abraham Lery, Farbrace Winthrop, Edith Lucy Winthrop, and Charles D. Currie.

### **Description of Key Heritage Attributes**

Key exterior attributes that embody the heritage value of 129 Victoria Street as a rare example of a Gothic Revival house include its:

- Two-over-two arched window sash and window shutters
- High-pitched gable roof
- Lacey treillage (ginger-bread) trim and finials
- Projecting eaves with plain fascia and soffit
- Shaped three light transom and door casing
- Front verandah
- Decorative front door
- Bay window
- Location on large and spacious lot
- White picket fence at the front of the property


Key interior features that embody the heritage value of 129 Victoria Street as a rare example of a Gothic Revival house include its:

- Centre-hall floorplan
- Original floorboards
- 4 panel doors
- Original false fireplace mantel for a woodstove
- Original interior trims, moulding, baseboards, door casings
- Hardware on doors and windows
- Staircase and railings with decorative spindles and button newel post

N.B. The interior of the house has several original details from the Victorian era, which include the small high-ceiled rooms, false fireplace mantle in the dining room and stove pipes that thread throughout the house (for heating). When bathrooms came inside, an upstairs wing was added above the kitchen. An early clapboard addition can still be found at the back of the house.

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available from Planning Staff. Any person may, not later than the 16th of July, 2016, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake notice of their objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If such a Notice of Objection is received the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake the 16th day of June 2016.

  
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Holly Dowd, Clerk