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# TOWN OF ST. MARYS

"THE STONE TOWN"

In the matter of the Ontario Heritage Act  
R.S.O., 1990, Chapter 18

And in the matter of the Lands  
and Premises known Municipally as  
(St. Marys Junction Station)

in the Town of St. Marys in the  
Province of Ontario

## Notice of Intention to Designate

To: Ontario Heritage Foundation  
77 Bloor Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2R9

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys intends to designate the property, including lands and buildings, known municipally as (St. Marys Junction Station) as a property of architectural value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1990, Chapter 18.

### Reasons for the Proposed Designation

#### St. Marys Junction Station

The St. Marys Junction Station was constructed in 1858 under the supervision of the famous Canadian Contractor Sir Casimir Gzowski, as a major station on the Toronto to Sarnia Branch of the Grand Trunk Railway. Local master masons, Alexander McDonald and Francis Anderson, also responsible for the London Railway Viaduct in 1857-8, were awarded the contract for its construction.

This station follows the model favoured by the Grand Trunk, which includes round-arched openings, a low-pitched roof, and extended eaves which protected a platform. Remarkably, these openings still contain their original French doors with transoms above; in all the other early stations on the line they have been filled in to sill height and made into windows.

The St. Marys limestone has been beautifully coursed and finished: the corner-stones are alternately smooth and rough-faced. The voussoirs over the door openings have rock-faced keystones. The four massive capped stone chimneys are still in place.

*received Jan. 4/94*

What is most remarkable of all -- indeed a unique feature of this station -- is the presence of the original interior partitions often with their original paint. Ladies' and mens' waiting rooms and station agent's office are still clearly indicated. Evidence also remains of the telegraph line at which Thomas Alva Edison, the inventor, is said to have worked in 1862-3.

Until World War I the Junction Station was a major shipping point from which local grain and stone was shipped both throughout Ontario and to major centres such as Toronto and Montreal. From here, as well, cattle and eggs were shipped to England and Scotland. The exporting of these local resources and products was chiefly responsible for the prosperity of nineteenth century St. Marys.

The St. Marys Junction Station is an extremely rare and important building. Of the few surviving stone stations on the original Grand Trunk line in Ontario, it is the only one which possesses its original interior and exterior design. It is a building important not only to St. Marys but to the entire province.

Any person may, before the 1st day of October, 1993, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of St. Marys notice of his or her objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. When a Notice of Objection has been received, the Council of the Town of St. Marys will refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing and report.

DATED at St. Marys, this 30th day of August, 1993.



K.G. Storey  
Clerk-Administrator