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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS **421 HUNTER ROAD, LOCUST GROVE (LOT 77)**, 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 **421 HUNTER ROAD, LOCUST GROVE** as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

Description of Property

421 Hunter Road, 'Locust Grove,' has a two-storey residence that sits on a large lot between Hunter Road and Niagara Stone Road in Niagara-on-the-Lake's agricultural area.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The heritage value of the property lies in the fact that this property has direct ties to early settlers in the area and the War of 1812. The original 1,000 acre estate that came to be called Locust Grove, was granted to Jacob Ball, one of Butler's Rangers, by the British Crown in 1782. The original farmhouse was burned by American forces in December 1813 during the War of 1812. The surrounding farmland, being right on the edge of the woods, was twice a battlefield during the war.

A large two-storey residence was re-built on the same property ca 1820 by Jacob's son, George Ball. Locust Grove became one of the most renowned country mansions in Upper Canada. A description of the interior of the ca 1820 building by George Ball's daughter demonstrates its unique grandeur in the area.

The building suffered major fires in 1904 and 1934. In the 1940s the dwelling became a dormitory for students of what would become Eden Christian College. The current residence has been restored to the 1890s form based on early photographic and written evidence. The few remaining ca 1820 components of the house appear to include the foundation, parts of the brick front wall and the stone arch over the front door.

Description of Key Heritage Attributes

Key attributes that embody the heritage value of 421 Hunter Road as one of the earliest manor houses in Niagara-on-the-Lake include the:

- Entire exterior of the building including the form and massing which has been restored to its early form, the window lug sills and stone arch over the front door
- Original stone foundation
- Original brick front wall
- Centre hall floor plan and main staircase

N.B. A pencil sketch by Julia Ball, completed in 1850, depicts William Ball's home immediately to the right of Locust Grove. It seems a smaller and more common house; it is no longer present. A smoke house and bake ovens also stood on the property with the ca 1820 dwelling.

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available from Planning Staff.

Any person may, not later than the 30th of January, 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 31st day of December 2015.



Holly Dowd, Clerk