



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act e-Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Ce document est tiré du registre électronique, tenu aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.



Department of Community and Development Services

1593 Four Mile Creek Road

P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0

905-468-3266 • Fax: 905-468-0301

~~ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST~~

~~JUL 08 2015~~

~~RECEIVED~~

www.notl.org

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 **240 CENTRE STREET, THE BREAKENRIDGE-URE HOUSE** (Part Lot 202), 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 **240 CENTRE STREET, THE BREAKENRIDGE-URE HOUSE** 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

240 Centre Street includes the Breakenridge-Ure House, a two storey brick dwelling located on the corner of Centre and Mississauga Streets, in Old Town, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The cultural heritage value of the Breakenridge-Ure House lies in it being a rare example of a dwelling from the rebuilding period after the War of 1812. Dating to 1823, the two storey house is reminiscent of Georgian style with simple, undisturbed Neo-Classical architectural details. The house remains on the original large lot and, in keeping with the character of the Town, is set well forward. The three bay façade in common bond brickwork is simple and symmetrical. The doorway features sidelights and a flat transom, which are considered to be one of the plainest in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The balanced façade is also achieved through the hipped roof and the end chimneys.

The cultural heritage value also lies in its association with prominent Upper Canadian families and its use as an institute for women's education. The original owner, John Breakenridge was a practicing barrister. After his death, his wife Mary Breakenridge established a school in the home, the "Niagara Seminary for Young Ladies." She ran the school alongside Eliza Fenwick, a prominent writer, teacher, abolitionist, proto-feminist and active contributor to late-Enlightenment educational reform in England. The

private school instructed women in the fine arts and French language until the mid 1830s.

There is also cultural heritage value in the associations with a prominent Confederate. Between 1865 to 1868 Frances Hopkins, the widow of Philip Hopkins (a retired commander of the ship H. M. Vandeleur, a British Revenue Cruiser), rented the house to John Porterfield, a Nashville banker who, during the American Civil War, was a financial agent for the Confederacy. After the surrender of the Confederacy, he sought sanctuary along with other Confederate administrators and politicians in Niagara until the Republican President Johnson passed amnesty legislation protecting Confederates from being charged as traitors thereby allowing them to return to their American homes.

Description of Key Heritage Attributes

Key exterior attributes that embody the heritage value of the dwelling as a rare example of the rebuilding period after 1812 include its:

- Simple, symmetrical front facade
- Low pitched hipped roof, with four end chimneys
- Soft hand-made bricks laid in American common bond with projecting string courses to demarcate the storeys; and a tooled Queenston limestone stone overlaying a course of fieldstone and rubble stone
- The plain wood door casing with sidelights and flat transom
- Projecting eaves with plain fascia, denticulated cornice, decorated soffit and moulded frieze
- Original sashes with 15 panes (9 over 6) and 12 pane (6 over 6, second floor) windows
- Moveable louver shutters and original shutter dogs
- Window lug sills and stone flat arches of tooled stone

Key interior attributes that embody the heritage value of the dwelling as a rare example of the rebuilding period after 1812 include its:

- Original fireplace mantels and fireplaces (4 on the ground floor, and possibly 4 upstairs)
- Intact original centre hall plan
- Simple, straight stair with tapered round balusters, oval rail and slender tapered newels

Key attributes that embody the contextual value of the property supporting the character of the town include its:

- Physical setting nestled on the corner of Centre and Mississauga Street, located just off the main entrance to the town

N.B. The centre hall plan of the house allowed for the principal rooms to be at the front and the smaller rooms to be in the rear. This was repeated also on the second floor. The hall runs through the centre of the house from front to back with the stairs to the left of the hall.

No kitchen exists on the main floor of the building but the basement has a relatively high ceiling and it is believed that the cooking fireplace and bake oven were once located in the basement.

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

Any person may, not later than the 27th of July, 2015, 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 25th day of June 2015.



Holly Dowd,

Clerk

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 PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake intends to designate the property at **240 CENTRE STREET, BREAKENRIDGE-URE HOUSE** (Part Lot 202) 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

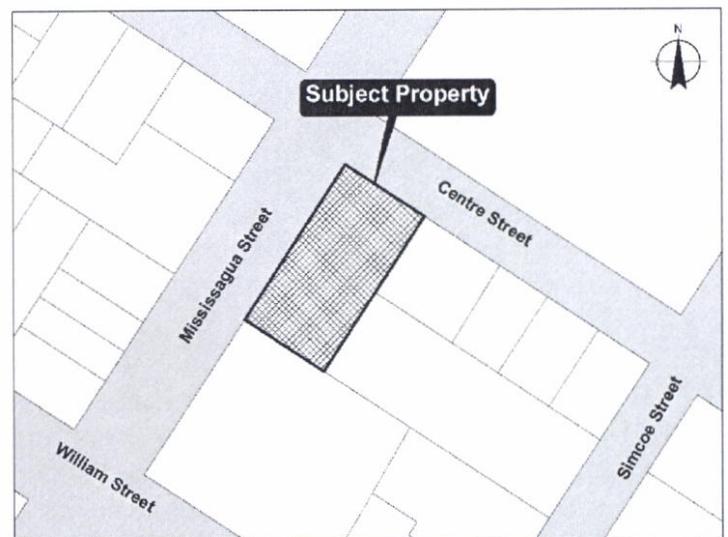
240 Centre Street includes the Breakenridge-Ure House, a two storey brick dwelling located on the corner of Centre and Mississauga Streets, in Old Town, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The cultural heritage value of the Breakenridge-Ure House lies in it being a rare example of a dwelling from the rebuilding period after the War of 1812. Dating to 1823, the two storey house is reminiscent of Georgian style with simple, undisturbed Neo-Classical architectural details.

The cultural heritage value also lies in its association with prominent Upper Canadian families and its use as an institute for women's education.

There is also cultural heritage value in the associations with a prominent Confederate. Between 1865 to 1868 Frances Hopkins, the widow of Philip Hopkins (a retired commander of the ship H. M. Vandeleur, a British Revenue Cruiser), rented the house to John Porterfield, a Nashville banker who, during the American Civil War, was a financial agent for the Confederacy.



Further information respecting the proposed designation, including the full statement of cultural value, is available from Planning Staff.

Any person may, not later than the 27th day of July 2015, 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 this 25th day of June 2015
HOLLY DOWD, CLERK