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Department of Community & Development Services
1593 Four Mile Creek Road
P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0
905-468-3266 • Fax: 905-468-0301

www.notl.com

February 7, 2024

The Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3

REGISTERED MAIL

**RE: 130 FRONT STREET, KIRBY HOUSE (PLAN 86 PART LOT 11 PART LOT 12), Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Notice of Intention to Designate
Ontario Heritage Act, Part IV**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 29(3) (a) (b) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18, please find enclosed a copy of:

Intention To Designate 130 Front Street, Kirby House (Plan 86 Part Lot 11 Part Lot 12)

Sincerely yours,

Grant Bivol
Town Clerk

Enc.

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Ontario Heritage Trust



NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

**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**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake intends to designate the property at **130 FRONT STREET, KIRBY HOUSE (PLAN 86 PART LOT 11 PART LOT 12)** 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

The subject property is located on 130 Front Street. The Kirby House is located near the intersection of Front Street and Gate Street. The residential building is set in a large site which has partial views of Lake Ontario on the north. The orientation of the built structure is such that it is placed closer to Front Street and has a large backyard in the rear. 130 Front Street also contains a detached garage located towards the southeast corner of the subject property. The open space surrounding the residential building is landscaped with a few mature trees located towards the west and south of the subject property. The pedestrian access to the house is through a paved stone pathway through the picket fence facing Front Street. Access for cars is through a gravel driveway located towards the east of the residential structure, outside the picket fence boundary.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property known as the Kirby House has cultural heritage value or interest for its design and physical values, its historical and associative values and its contextual values.

The house which has become to be known as the 'Kirby House', was constructed in 1818. The property has design and physical value because it is a representative example of the Georgian style. The two-storey rectangular plan residence has a side gable roof with return eaves, symmetrical façade with three bays, cornice details, six over six double hung windows, the neo-classical doorway and the stucco finish. The balanced, simple and symmetrical side elevations are also characteristic of the Georgian style.

The Kirby House is also of value because of its association with William Kirby. The influence of William Kirby was far-reaching and had an impact locally, provincially, nationally and he also raised recognition of Canada internationally. Kirby first came to Niagara in September of 1839. Initially, he worked as a tanner and then was a partner in a tannery business, from there he transitioned to teaching. After his marriage in 1847 to Eliza Madeline Whitmore, Kirby moved permanently to Niagara and in 1850, became the editor of the Niagara Mail until well into the 1860's. William Kirby was the author of the Annals of Niagara, The Golden Dog, Canadian Idylls and other works. His work, The Golden Dog, went on to become an international best-seller. His work is well known internationally and even helped gain international interest in Canada's history. After his arrival in Niagara, he worked in various industries and was an essential part of many societies. William Kirby was also one of the original Fellows of the Royal Society of Canada. He has a plaque dedicated by the Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Board, installed in front of the Kirby house.

The Kirby House also has contextual value because it is important in supporting the historic character of the area. Kirby house is within the boundaries of the Historic Old Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and is in close proximity to the Queen-Picton Heritage District. The house design and layout of the subject property, in terms of the open and built spaces, is in keeping with the surrounding properties.

Description of Key Heritage Attributes

Key exterior and interior attributes that embody the heritage value of the dwelling at 130 Front Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake include its:

- 3 bay symmetrical façade
- Side gable roof with overhanging return eaves
- Red brick chimneys on each gable end
- Upper sash and cornice details
- French and six over six double hung windows
- Wooden trim details around openings
- Main doorway with entablature, cornice, sidelights and pilasters
- Plaque dedicated by Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Board
- Location of Kirby house within historic old town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Mature trees and landscaped lawns
- Mantel piece with fluted pilasters
- Recessed carved fans
- Centre hall staircase

Objections

Any objection to this designation must be filled no later than 30 days after the date of publication of the Notice of Intent to Designate. Objections should be directed to Grant Bivol, Town Clerk, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake, L0S 1T0. The last date to file a notice of objection is **March 8th 2024**.

Queries

Any further queries should be directed to Sumra Zia, Heritage Planner at (905) 468-3266 ext. 327 or through email at sumra.zia@notl.com.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 7th day of February 2024
GRANT BIVOL, CLERK