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Notice is Hereby Given that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Newmarket intends to designate as a property of cultural heritage value and interest the following property in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18:

Property Description: 266 Prospect Street (William Widdifield House) is located at the southwest corner at the intersection of Prospect Street and Water Street in the Town of Newmarket. The subject property consists of a two-and-a-half storey Queen Anne building constructed in 1894.

Legal Description: PART LOTS 8 & 9 W/S PROSPECT STREET, PLAN 15; PART LOT 9, PLAN 34, PART LOTS 17 & 18, PART BLOCK E, PLAN 85; TOWN OF NEWMARKET

Publication Date: Nov 1, 2024

Last Date for Objection: Dec 1, 2024

Any notice of objection to this Notice of Intention to Designate, setting out the reason for objection and all relevant facts, must be served upon the Town Clerk within 30 days of the first publication of this notice.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

Physical/ Design Value

266 Prospect Street is a representative example of a building constructed in the Queen Anne architectural style. The two-and-a-half storey red brick building follows an irregular plan with complex roofline showcasing front and side gables, dormer, overhanging eaves which create the playful and asymmetrical composition typical Queen Anne design. The façade exhibits several elaborate and decorative details including an ornate banding and a one-storey portico with ornate keyhole arch entrance surrounded by decorative voussoir with keystone and stringers and a roofline with dentils and decorative detailing, and segmentally arched door which are characteristics of the Queen Anne style. The various window openings including the large prominent arched façade window with wooden detailing and brackets, the tall and narrow segmentally arched window openings with brick voussoirs and stone sills and the quarter circle windows, are representative of the variation associated with Queen Anne style. The one-storey southern wing with gable peak includes an enclosed porch/sunroom featuring ornate roofline with brackets, dentils and decorative detailing showcases additional elements associated with the Queen Anne style. The detailed woodwork and brickwork, and ornamental design of openings provides a playfulness that is representative of Queen Anne style.

Historical and Associative Value

266 Prospect Street is directly associated with the historic Village of Newmarket, lawyer William C. Widdifield and architect William Bunney. The lots lines, layout, and built form of the historic village of Newmarket was well established in the mid-19th century and evident in a well established commercial core found along Main Street and the large presence of residences located along several side streets. Simultaneously, Prospect Street, located on the east side of the Holland River and part of a community known as Garbutt Hill, developed during the mid-19th century. Garbutt Hill was the site of several important businesses such as the Stickwood Brickyard, the pump factory, Thomas Gardiner's foundry, later occupied by the Newmarket Dairy, and the York County Hospital. By 1865, several small bridges and makeshift roads had been constructed across the Holland River and Timothy Street extending the road to Garbutt Hill (Prospect Street) was opened the same year. The development of the commercial core and surrounding residential streetscapes, including the community of Garbutt Hill, in the mid-19th century played a significant role in the social and economic development and growth of

the Village of Newmarket. Many early merchants with stores on Main Street lived in the nearby side streets, including lawyer William C. Widdifield, who kept his offices at 207 Main Street. It is likely that the brick used in the construction of the residence was from the Stickwood Brickyard, which produced both red and buff/yellow-coloured bricks during this time period. Local historians indicate that almost all of the brick buildings built in Newmarket between 1860 and 1910 were likely constructed with bricks that originated at the Stickwood Brickyard. The use of locally made bricks reflect the concentrated development and prosperity of the historic core.

266 Prospect is associated with prominent lawyer William Clark Widdifield, who was descended from one of Newmarket's influential and early Quaker families. He kept offices in the Widdifield Building at the corner of Main Street and Botsford Street, which was built in 1879 by William Widdifield's brother Joseph Widdifield. In 1894, Widdifield hired local architect William Bunney to adapt the 1848 one-storey frame Baptist church that was on the subject property into two-and-a-half storey, brick and stone clad residence. The property remained in the Widdifield family for around 50 years before adapted into a nursing home, and then an apartment building.

266 Prospect is associated William Bunney. William Bunney was born in Cornwall, England in 1851 and immigrated to Bowmanville in 1871, where he began working as an architect. He joined the Ontario Associated of Architects (OAA) in November 1890 and moved to Newmarket in 1894. William Bunney was locally employed by Wm. Cane & Sons, a manufacturer of a wide range of wood products, and also responsible for the design not only of his own residence at 70 Main Street South, but also several other residences of other prominent local citizens, some of which are still extant. He moved to Ottawa in 1898 and died in Hamilton in 1925.

266 Prospect Street reflects the work of local architect William Bunney. Many of William Bunney's local commissions were buildings constructed in the Queen Anne Style for prominent institutions or community members. The elaborate and/or well-known buildings within Newmarket that reflect William Bunney's architectural work includes the Christian Church Manse at 127 Main Street, his own dwelling at 70 Main Street, and the Brunton residence at 480 Eagle Street.

Contextual Value

266 Prospect Street is important in supporting the 19th century character of the historic Village of Newmarket. Several residential side streets, including Prospect Street, were established in the village core, near the commercial Main Street. Located off or parallel to Main Street, the buildings along the side streets are comprised of predominantly one to two-and-a half storey residences, primarily brick construction most using bricks from Stickwood's brickyard, with modest setbacks and include a range of architectural styles from that time period. 266 Prospect Street exhibits setback, massing, style, decorative details consistent with the historic village character.

226 Prospect Street is a local landmark. Based on historical materials which notes the property's grandeur and prominence in Newmarket at the time of its construction, 266 Prospect Street continues to serve as a local landmark by the community both due to its prominent location on the corner of Prospect and Water Street atop a high ridge overlooking the historic village and its grand architecture.

Additional information, including a full description of the rationale for designation is available upon request from Umar Mahmood, Planner, Committee of Adjustment and Cultural Heritage, Planning Services at (905) 895-5193, extension 2458, or at umahmood@newmarket.ca during regular business hours.

Dated at the Town of Newmarket this 1st day of Nov, 2024

Town Clerk | Town of Newmarket

P.O. Box 328, 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7