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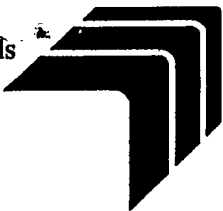


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October 18, 1995

**REGISTERED MAIL**

Ontario Heritage Foundation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5C 1J3

**RECEIVED**  
IN THE OFFICE

**OCT 24 1995**

CULTURAL PROGRAMS  
HERITAGE UNIT

Dear Sir or Madam:

**Re: Notice of Intention to Designate  
3174 St. Patrick Avenue  
Niagara Falls, Ontario**

The Council of the Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls intends to designate the above noted land and building as property of historic and architectural value and interest under the terms of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990. The enclosed notice provides information on the significance of the property and the manner in which objection to the designation may be served. This public notice is being published in the local newspaper in accordance with the requirements of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Planning and Development Department.

Yours truly,

Alex Herlovitch  
Deputy Director of Planning & Development

RW/tc  
Encl.

c: E. C. Wagg, City Clerk

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# NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls intends to designate the following land and building as property of historic and architectural value and interest under the terms of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990.

## 3174 ST. PATRICK AVENUE

The property is located at the southeast corner of St. Patrick Avenue and Brock Street, being part of Lot 33, Registered Plan 1791 in the City of Niagara Falls in the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The house dates from the first half of the nineteenth century and the earliest settlement of the former Township of Stamford. Situated on land which was part of the original 1805 Crown patent to the Presbyterian Church of Stamford, early owners of the home included Rheddy Cusack and Andrew Rorback who may have been responsible for its construction. Andrew Rorback came to Canada from New Jersey about 1799. He kept a store and conducted a saddlery business. He was adjunct of the Second Regiment of the Lincoln Militia in 1813-14 and in 1837-38 commanded the Regiment with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Matthew Ottley, the third owner of the home is attributed with many of the changes which provide much of its current appearance. Several other prominent members of the community have resided in the dwelling including Grace Russell, the widow of the first minister of the Presbyterian Church of Stamford. Grace Russell would have retained her high social standing in the community because of the very important role the church played in the settlement of the Stamford area. Following her residency, the house became known as the "Russell Cottage".

## ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The house is a simple dwelling in a local vernacular, blending details from several periods of nineteenth century architecture. The early house has two distinct phases while there have been two more recent additions. The first phase of the house predates 1830 and forms the south extent of the current front facade. This portion sits on a stone foundation and exhibits early construction techniques including the use of logs for floor joists and roof rafters. A recess in the masonry walls of the basement may indicate the existence of an early cooking fireplace. The second phase of the dwelling was erected on the north side and perpendicular to the original house with its gable end facing St. Patrick Avenue. Construction of this part of the house occurred circa 1830-35, utilizing sawn lumber with plaster walls on split accordion lath. The stone cellar foundation provides a walk-out at grade. A treillage verandah on the front facade is the dominant architectural feature, characteristic of the Regency period of construction. The verandah is termed a Stamford treillage in the book The Ancestral Roof and is a rare example of early porch joinery. The house has an asymmetrical arrangement of openings across the front facade. This informal arrangement of openings adds to the picturesque qualities of the dwelling. Window openings on the west, north and east facades of the early phases of the house retain the original 6 over 6 window sash with fine mutin bars separating the glazing. The eaves returns attest to the influence of the Classical Revival Style of the second and third quarters of the nineteenth century. Vinyl siding and aluminum soffit and fascia have been applied over the original clapboard siding and wood eaves. Modern additions are located to the rear of the original structures. The large rear yard provides a landscaped setting with mature coniferous and deciduous trees.

Notice of objection to the designation of the above-noted property may be served on the Clerk of the City of Niagara Falls within 30 days after the date of this notice.

For further information regarding the proposed designation, please contact Alex Herlovitch, Planning & Development Department, 356-7521, extension 4231.

Dated at Niagara Falls this 18th day of October, 1995.

E.C. Wagg, City Clerk